

Art by
Kouji Ogata
Story by
Kouhei Kadono

1 ブギーポップは
笑わない

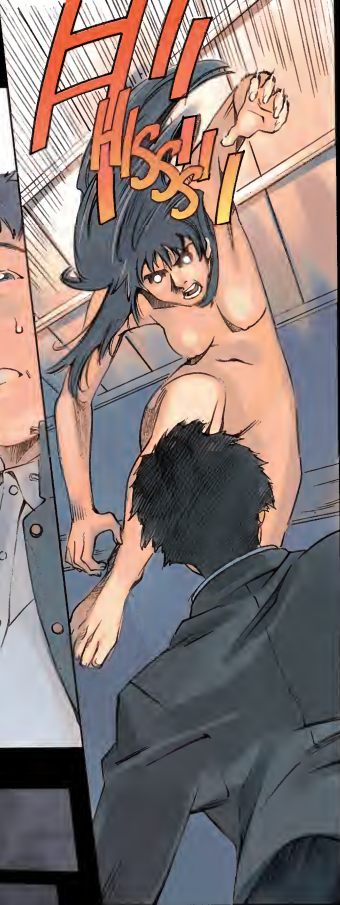
Boogiepop
doesn't laugh





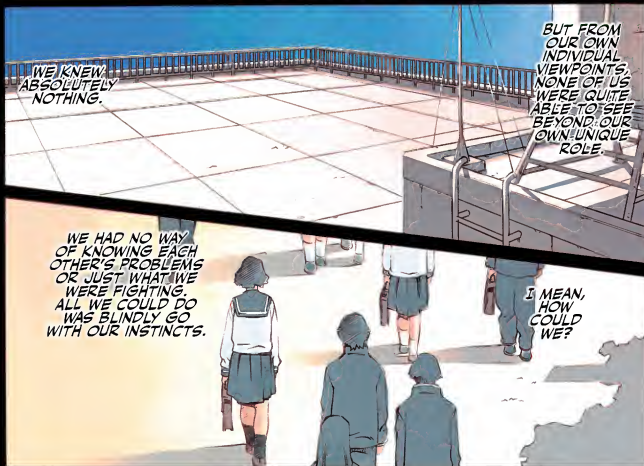






THEN YOU'LL
REALIZE THAT
EVERYTHING
IS CONNECTED
AND HAS ITS
PLACE.

FROM A
DISTANCE, THESE
EVENTS MIGHT
SEEM QUITE
CONFUSING AND
DISJOINTED TO
THE UNINITIATED,
BUT IF YOU OPEN
YOUR MIND...

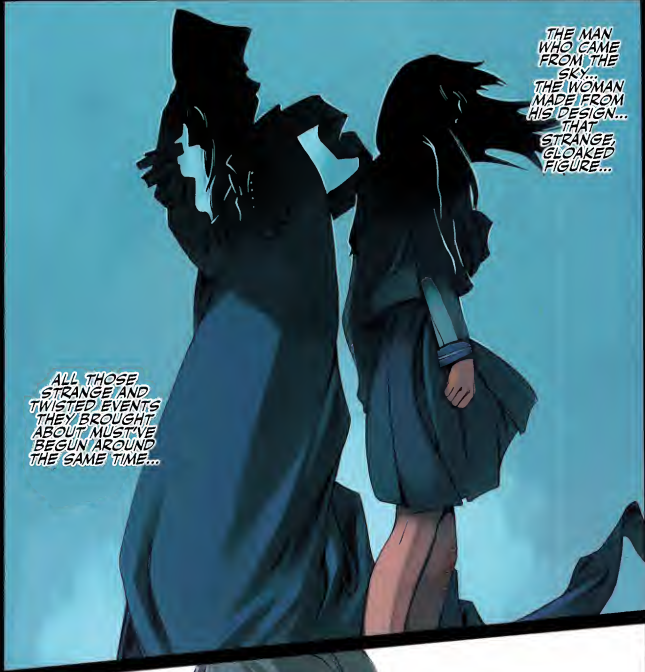


WE KNEW
ABSOLUTELY
NOTHING.

BUT FROM
OUR OWN
INDIVIDUAL
VIEWPOINTS,
NONE OF US
WERE QUITE
ABLE TO SEE
BEYOND OUR
OWN UNIQUE
ROLE.

WE HAD NO WAY
OF KNOWING EACH
OTHER'S PROBLEMS
OR JUST WHAT WE
WERE FIGHTING.
ALL WE COULD DO
WAS BLINDLY GO
WITH OUR INSTINCTS.

I MEAN,
HOW
COULD
WE?



THE MAN
WHO CAME
FROM THE
SKY...
THE WOMAN
MADE FROM
HIS DESIGN...
THAT
STRANGE,
GLOAKED
FIGURE...

ALL THOSE
STRANGE AND
TWISTED EVENTS
THEY BROUGHT
ABOUT MUST'VE
BEGUN AROUND
THE SAME TIME...



RIGHT AS I,
NIITOKI KEI,
WAS HAVING
MY HEART
BROKEN.

Boogiepop doesn't laugh

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だい
お
第1話
Chapter One

HE'S NO
LONGER
AROUND,
BUT I'M
NOT SURE
IF I SHOULD
BE RELIEVED
KNOWING
THAT OR NOT.

THE STORY
OF BOOGIEPOP
IS ONE THAT
WEIGHS HEAVILY
UPON ME, BUT
IT'S ONE THAT
I STILL HAVE A
LOT OF MIXED
FEELINGS
ABOUT.

BUT IT
WASN'T
ANYONE
ELSE'S
PROBLEM,
NOW WAS
IT?

THAT SORT OF
THING IS ONLY
FUN IF THEY'RE
ON TV. IF YOU'RE
STANDING RIGHT
NEXT TO ONE, IT
TENDS TO SPELL
NOTHING BUT
TROUBLE.

HE JUST
ALWAYS
STOOD
THERE
LOOKING
GRIM.

THE
WEIRDEST
THING
ABOUT IT
ALL WAS
THAT I
NEVER
ONCE
SAW HIM
SMILE.

HE WAS...
UNUSUAL,
TO SAY
THE LEAST.

AFTER
ALL, HE
WAS A
TRANS-
FORMING
SUPER-
HERO.



YEAH, AND
HE ALWAYS
WOULD SAY
DEPRESSING
STUFF LIKE
THAT.

TAKEDA-
KUN...

THIS
WORLD IS
FULL OF
FLAWS.



BUT
BOOGIEPOP
IS GONE
NOW.

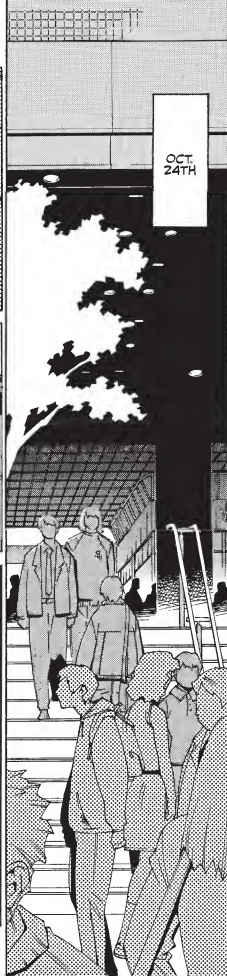
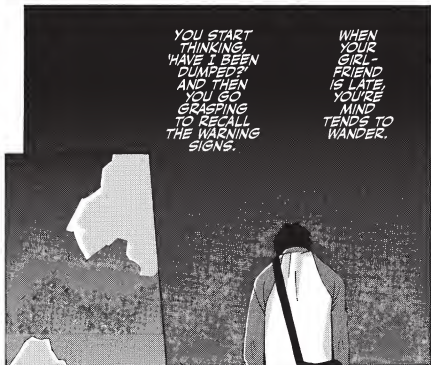
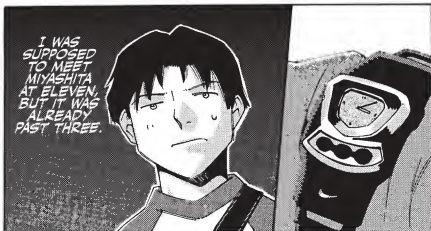


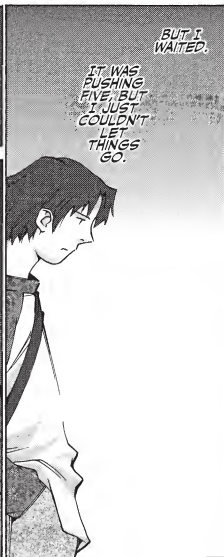
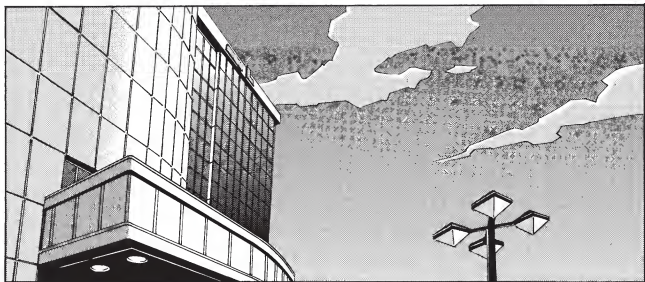
AND I'LL
NEVER
KNOW IF
EVERY-
THING
HE TOLD
ME...

...WAS ALL
JUST A
LIE OR
NOT.



AND WITH
THE EXACT
SAME
PRETTY
FACE THAT
ALWAYS
MADE MY
HEAD REEL.





IT'S
REALLY NO
WONDER I
FELT LEFT
OUT.



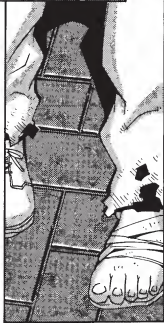
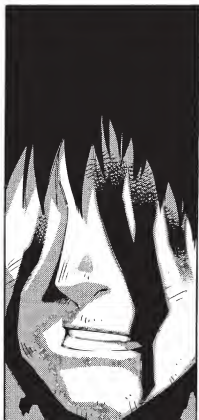
TO TOP
IT ALL
OFF, I WAS
THE ONLY
PERSON IN
MY CLASS
NOT EVEN
THINKING
ABOUT
GOING TO
COLLEGE.

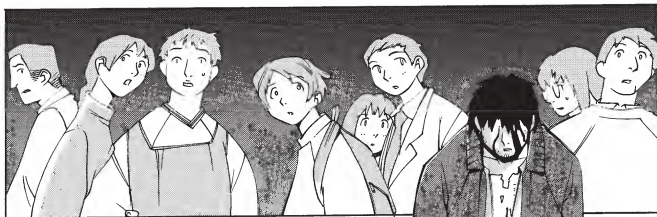


SHUFFLE
SHUFFLE



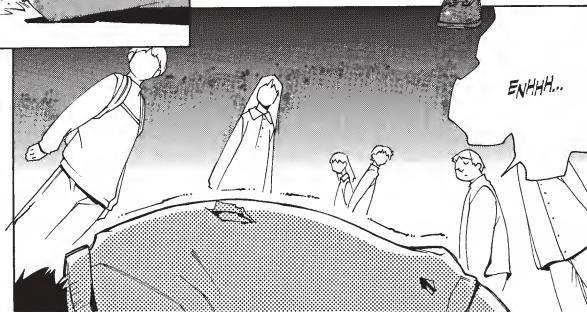
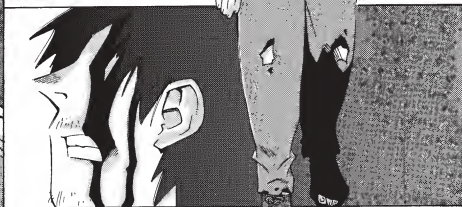
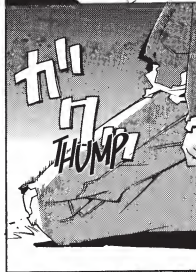
SIGH...

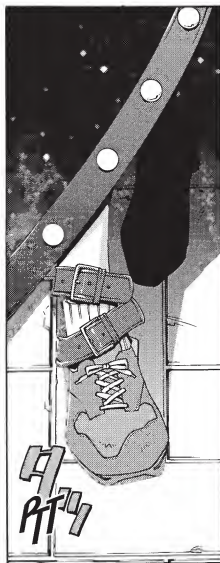




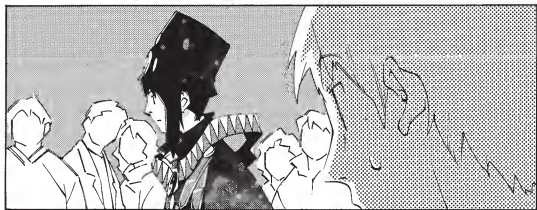
WOBBLE

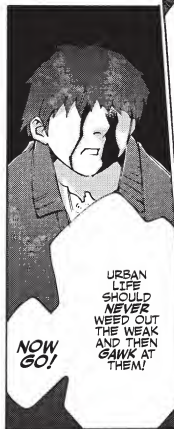
WOBBLE











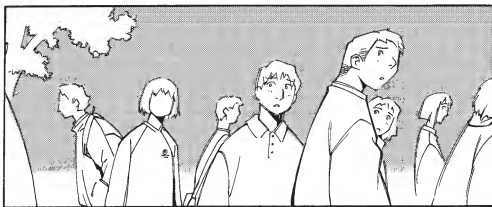
**NOW
GO!**

URBAN
LIFE
SHOULD
NEVER
WEED OUT
THE WEAK
AND THEN
GAWK AT
THEM!

IS **THIS**
WHAT THE
ADVANCE-
MENT OF
CIVILIZATION
HAS LEAD
TO?! IT'S
SIMPLY
APPALLING!



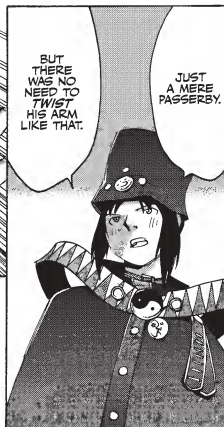
DO YOU
PEOPLE
THINK
TO DO
NOTHING
WHEN YOU
SEE A
FELLOW
HUMAN
CRYING?!







JUST
MOVE
ALONG!

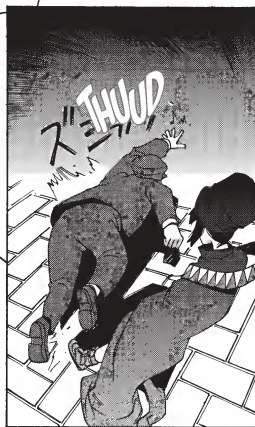


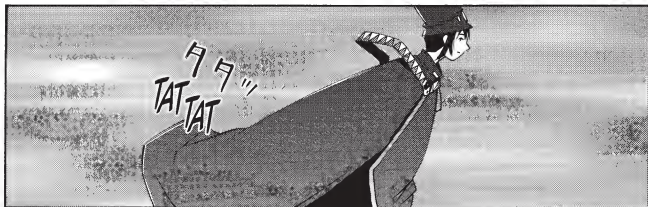
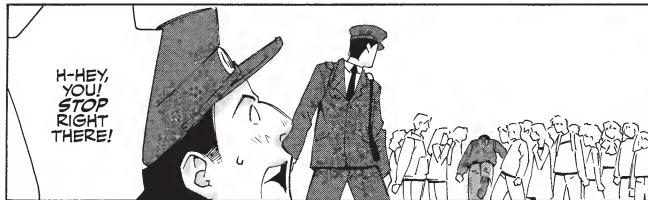
BUT
THERE
WAS NO
NEED TO
TWIST
HIS ARM
LIKE THAT.

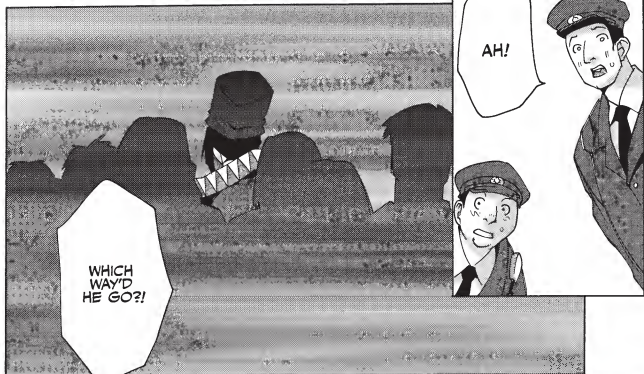
JUST
A MERE
PASSERBY.



THIS
IS WHAT
HAPPENS
WHEN YOU
RESORT TO
VIOLENCE.









IT WASN'T
THE
CLOAKED
FIGURE'S
STRANGE
BEHAVIOR
THAT GOT
ME.

NO,
IT WAS
HAVING
THAT
PRETTY
FACE
OF HIS
BURNED
INTO MY
RETINAS.

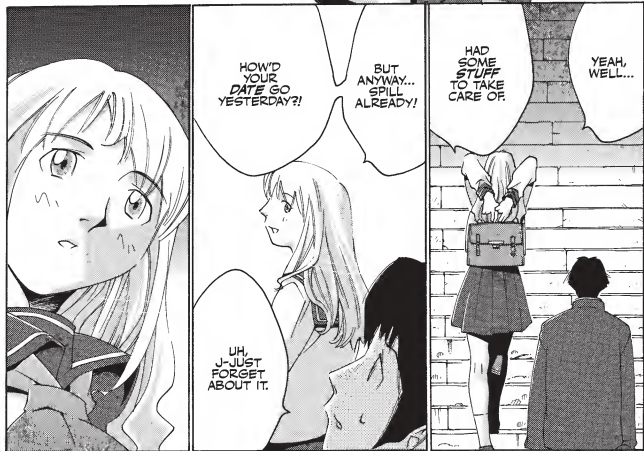
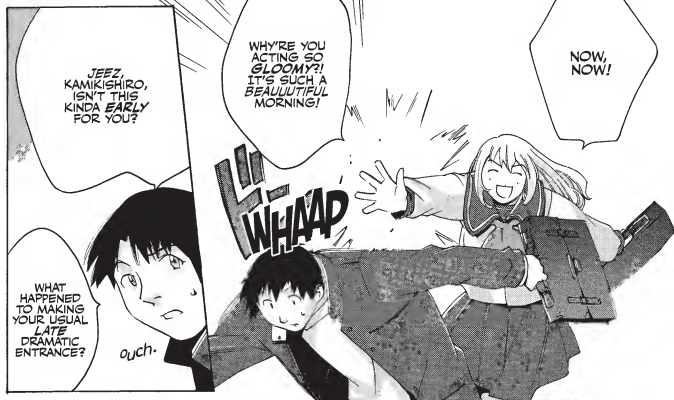
THERE WAS
NO MISTAKING
THOSE BIG,
ALMOND SHAPED
EYES...THEY
BELONGED
TO THE GIRL
THAT I HAD
BEEN WAITING
FOR ALL DAY--
MIYASHITA
TOUKA!

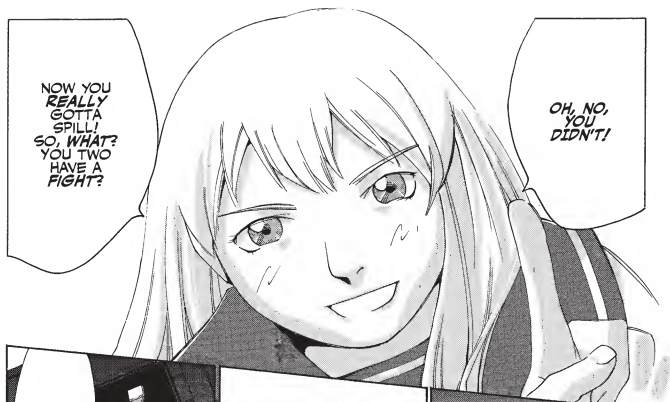
AND THUS
ENDED MY
FIRST
ENCOUNTER
WITH THE
MYSTERIOUS
CLOAKED
FIGURE...
BOOGIEPOP.



だのわ
第2話
Chapter Two

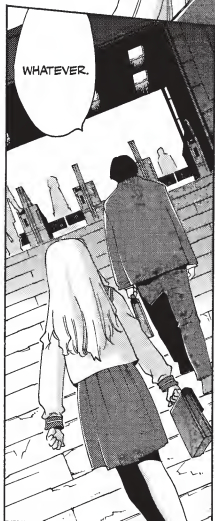






NOW YOU
REALLY
GOTTA
SPILL!
SO, WHAT?
YOU TWO
HAVE A
FIGHT?

OH, NO,
YOU
DIDN'T!



WHATEVER.



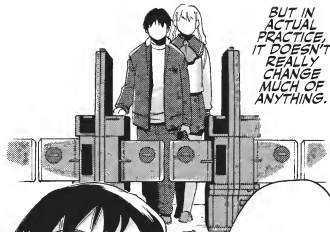
UH...WHA?
HEY! THAT
SOUNDS
SERIOUS!



UH, NO,
IF ONLY
WE HAD'VE.

A...
A FIGHT?

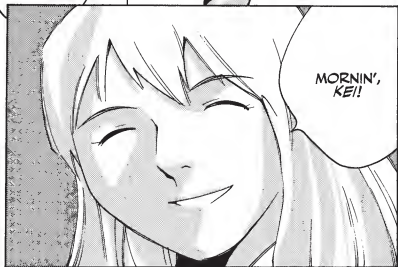
BUT IN
ACTUAL
PRACTICE,
IT DOESN'T
REALLY
CHANGE
MUCH OF
ANYTHING.



OH,
TAKEDA-SEMPAI,
YOU'RE HERE
EARLY.



D-DITTO.



MORNIN',
KEI!

SHINYO
ACADEMY
IS A LOT
LIKE OTHER
SCHOOLS,
BUT IT
DOES HAVE
ITS VICES.

EVERY
TIME YOU
COME
AND GO,
YOU HAVE
TO SWIPE
YOUR ID
CARD
THROUGH
A GATE
CHECKER.
YOU KNOW,
LIKE THE
KIND AT
A TRAIN
STATION?



SUPPOSEDLY
IT HELPS THE
STAFF KEEP
TABS ON
ATTENDANCE
NUMBERS
SINCE THE
STUDENT
POPULATION
KEEPS
DECLINING.

I DIDN'T
MEAN IT
THAT WAY,
HONEST!
BUT EVEN
IF IT **WERE**
TRUE, MY
LIPS ARE
SEALED.

THAT'S
ACTUALLY
SCARY
COMING
FROM
YOU, MS.
DISCIPLINE
COMMITTEE
PRESIDENT.

MY, MY...
ARE YOU
TWO
TOGETHER
NOW?

SOUNDS
EXPENSIVE.

TRYING
TO EARN
A FAVOR,
EH?

DEEP DOWN,
SHE MEANT IT.
BUT MIKE NEVER
FOUND OUT.
KAMIKISHIRO
HAD BOTH A
FIRST- AND
SECOND-YEAR
STUDENT IN
HER SADDLE.
SHE'D PROBABLY
BLOW A GASKET.

OH...
IT IS.



OH,
SEMPAI!
DON'T FORGET
WE'VE GOT A
MEETING
TODAY!



AH,
PUPPY LOVE...
SO
CUUTE.

DON'T
TELL ME
YOU CAN'T
SEE SHE
HAS A
CRUSH
ON YOU!

KEI, OF
COURSE!

SHE'S
SO
CUTE.

YOU'RE
ONE TO
TALK.

WHO?

SO THAT'S
WHY YOU'RE
ON THE
RAG TODAY.
GOTCHA!

OHHHH...

HA HA HA!

NO,
TOUKA
JUST
STOOD
ME UP
AND QUIT
CALLING
HER "FUJI-
CHAN"!

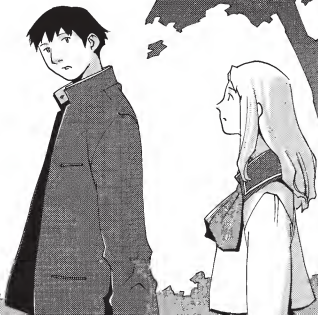
SO WHAT
WAS IT?
FUJI-CHAN
DUMP YOU?

SO,
UH...

WHAT
ARE GIRLS
THINKING
WHEN THEY
DO THAT?
IT SURE
AIN'T ABOUT
THEIR
BOYFRIEND.

GRIN
?

BUT YOU
STAND
PEOPLE
UP ALL THE
TIME!



HMM... IT
ALL DEPENDS,
REALLY. IT'S
NOT ALWAYS
BECAUSE
THEY *DON'T*
WANNA SEE YOU.
STUFF JUST,
YOU KNOW,
COMES UP.

THAT'S
NOT AN
EASY
THING TO
ANSWER.

WHAT
IF THEY
STAND
YOU UP
SO THEY
CAN GO
DRESS UP
LIKE A
GUY?

YEAH,
BUT...

Hunh?

WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?!



*Life is brief,
young maiden,
fall in love;
before the crimson
bloom fades from
your lips,
before the tides
of passion cool
within your hips,
for those of you
who know no
tomorrow.*





HOW
MANY
IS THIS
NOW?

FIFTY?!

FOR
CRYING
OUT LOUD!

KINDA.

Tee
hee
hee.

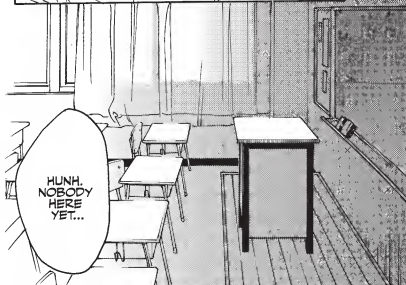
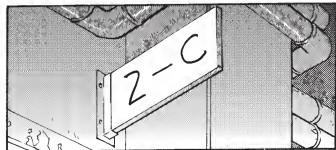
GEE,
YOU'RE IN
A **GOOD**
MOOD. YOU
IN LOVE
AGAIN?



BEFORE
WE HIT
THE HALLS,
WE BOTH
DRIFTED
INTO A
SLIGHTLY
MORE
STAND-
OFFISH
ATTITUDE.

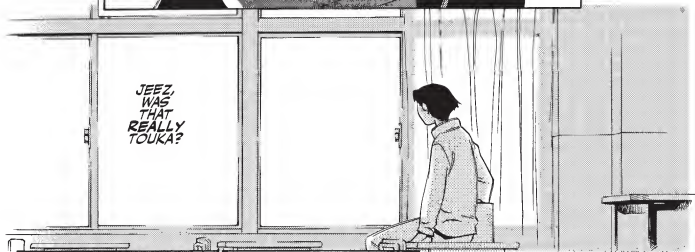


OBVIOUSLY,
WE WEREN'T
GOING OUT,
BUT IT WAS
NEVER A
GOOD IDEA
TO START
ANY RUMORS.

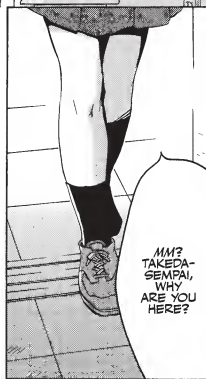




DO YOU
PEOPLE
THINK
TO DO
NOTHING
WHEN YOU
SEE A
FELLOW
HUMAN
CRYING?!



JEEZ,
WAS
THAT
REALLY
TOUKA?

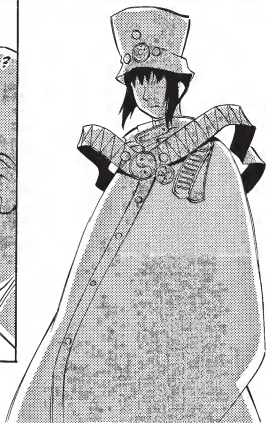


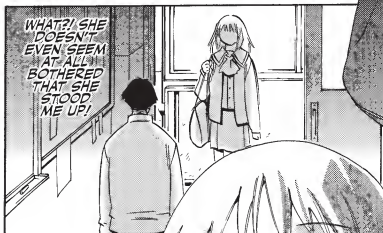
MM?
TAKEDA-
SEMPAI,
WHY
ARE YOU
HERE?

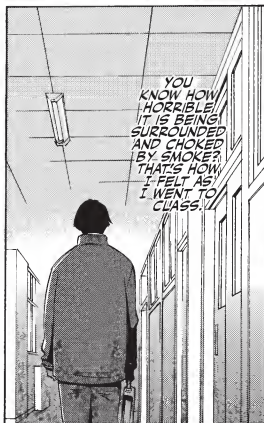
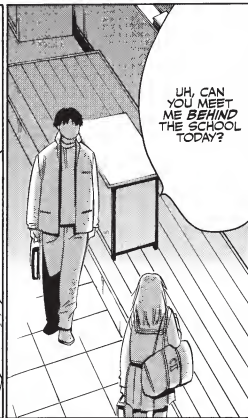


MAYBE
IT WAS
HER TWIN
BROTHER....?

NO, SHE'S
NEVER
MENTIONED
HAVING ONE
BEFORE.







I EXPECT
THAT EACH
ONE OF
YOU HAS
NOTICED
THIS BY
NOW...

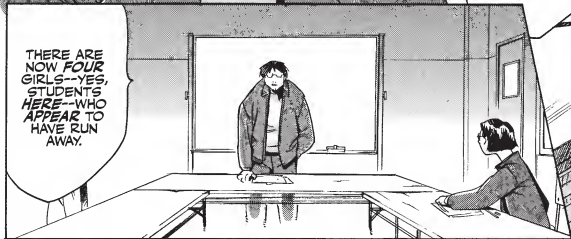


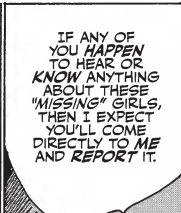
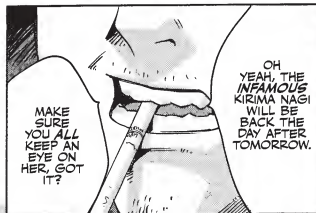
Chapter Three

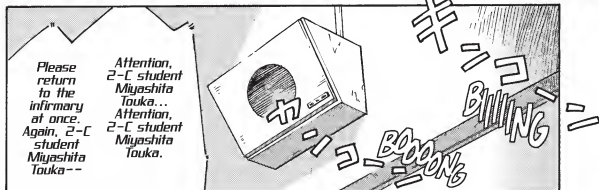
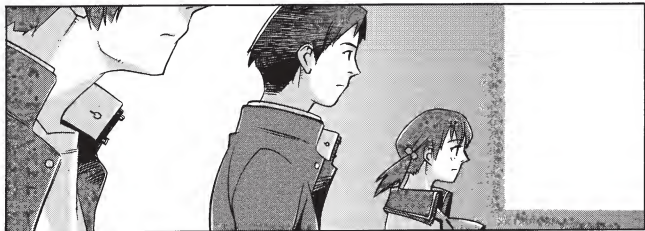
第3話

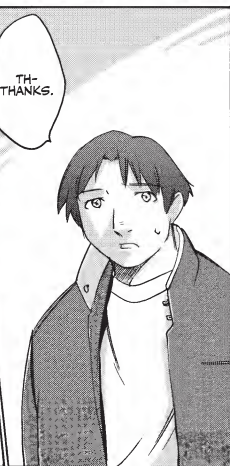
BUT
THIS YEAR,
DISCIPLINE
HAS
BECOME
RATHER
SLACK.

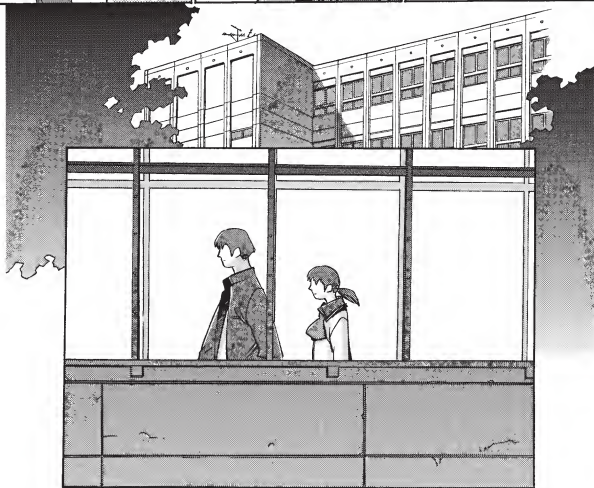
THERE ARE
NOW **FOUR**
GIRLS--YES,
STUDENTS
HERE--WHO
APPEAR TO
HAVE RUN
AWAY.

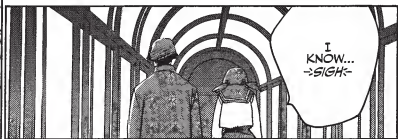
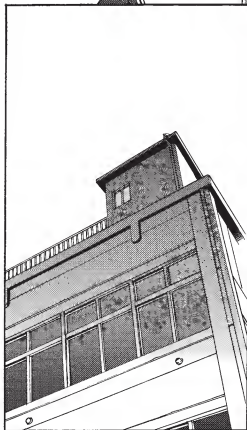
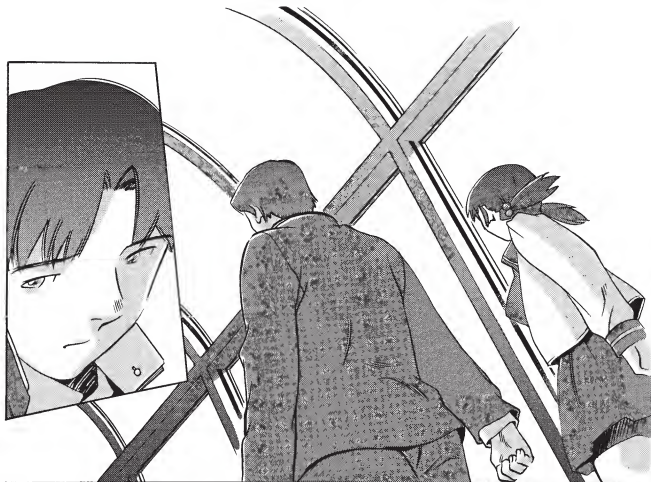




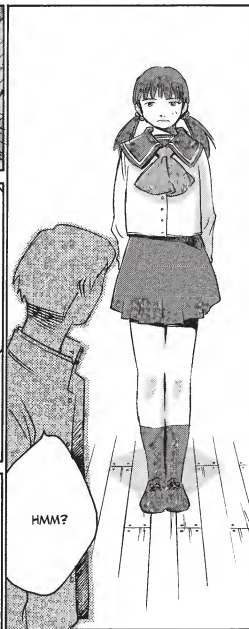
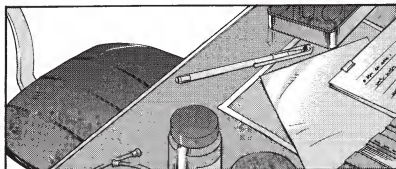
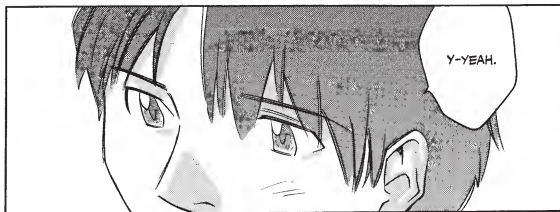


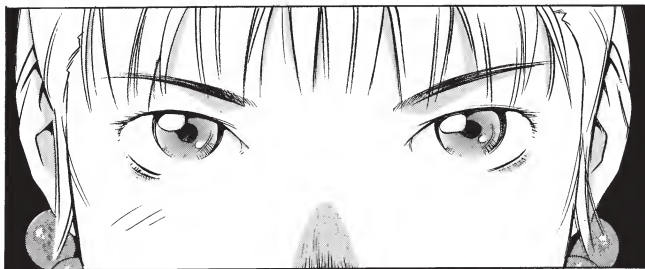
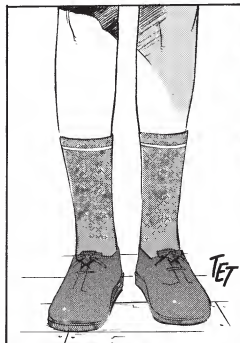
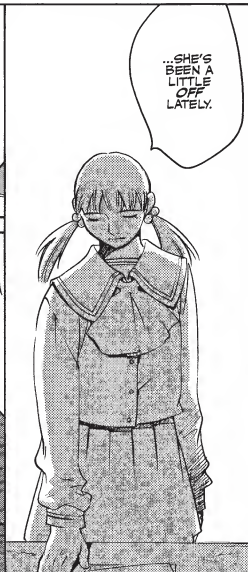




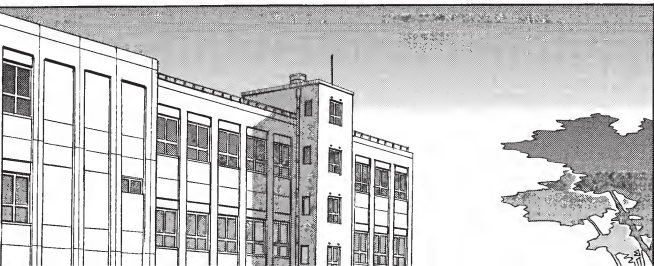


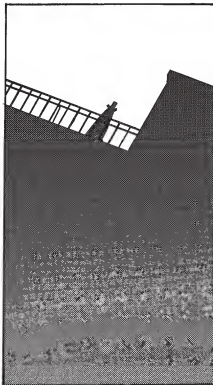
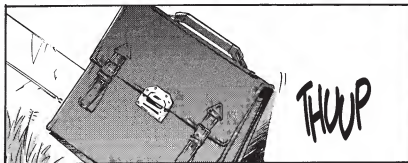


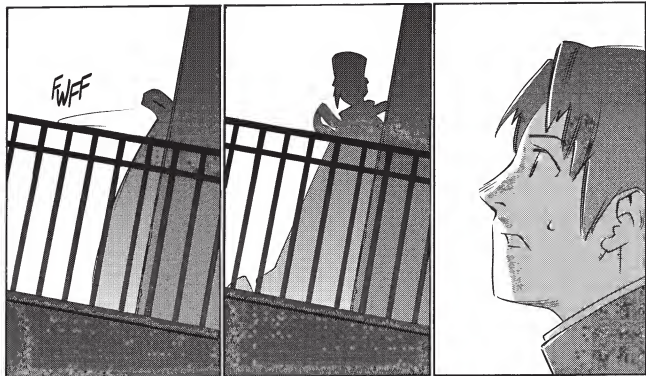




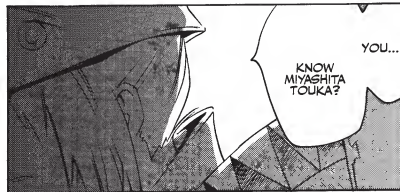




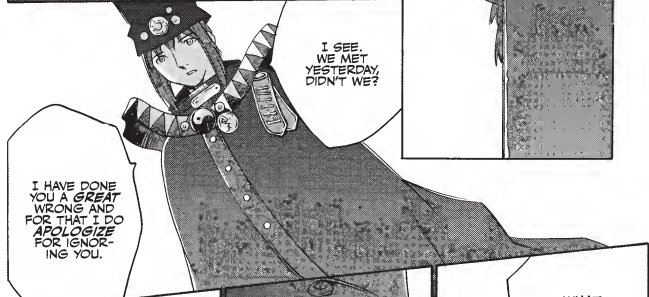








YOU...
KNOW
MIYAGHITA
TOUKA?



I SEE.
WE MET
YESTERDAY,
DIDN'T WE?

I HAVE DONE
YOU A **GREAT**
WRONG AND
FOR THAT I DO
APOLOGIZE
FOR IGNOR-
ING YOU.

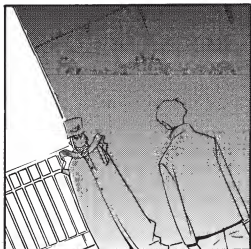


PERHAPS
I SHOULD
MAKE IT
CLEAR...

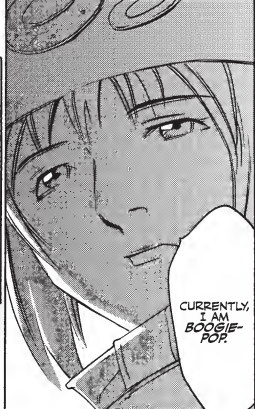
THAT
I AM
NOT
MIYAGHITA
TOUKA.



WHAT
THE **HELL**
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?!



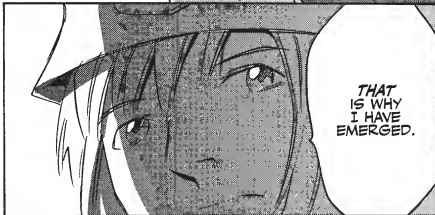
C-CUR-
RENTLY?



CURRENTLY,
I AM
**BOOGIE-
POP.**

SIMPLY
PUT, MY
SITUATION
RESEMBLES
THAT OF
A **SPLIT**
PERSONALITY

UNDER-
STAND
ME SO
FAR?



THAT
IS WHY
I HAVE
EMERGED.

NONE OF
YOU HAVE
NOTICED
YET, BUT
DANGER IS
HOVERING
OVER **THIS**
SCHOOL...
AND IT
THREATENS
ALL MANKIND.

第4話

Chapter Four

BRNNING
BRNNING

BRNNING

BUT
TOUKA'S
PARENTS
ARE
REALLY
STRICT
AND SHE
COULDN'T
CALL ME,
SO I HAD
TO BE
CLEVER.

THAT
EVENING,
I HAD TO
KNOW THE
TRUTH.

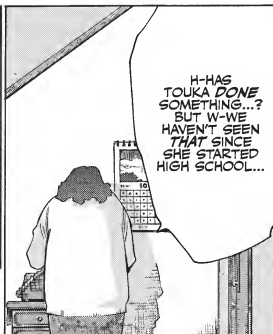
HELLO.
THIS IS
TAKEDA
FROM THE
SHINYO
ACADEMY
DISCIPLINE
COMMITTEE.
IS TOUKA
IN?

CHK

Miyashita
speaking.



THAT?



H-HAS
TOUKA *DONE*
SOMETHING...?
BUT W-WE
HAVEN'T SEEN
THAT SINCE
SHE STARTED
HIGH SCHOOL...



O-OF
COURSE!
JUST A
MOMENT!



SHE
MUST BE
SPOOKED.

WEIRD,
SHE'S
BEING
TOO
POLITE
TO ME.



I'D LIKE
TO SPEAK
TO HER
DIRECTLY,
IF POSSIBLE.



YOU EVER
HEARD OF...
BOOGIEPOP?

EH?

BEEP

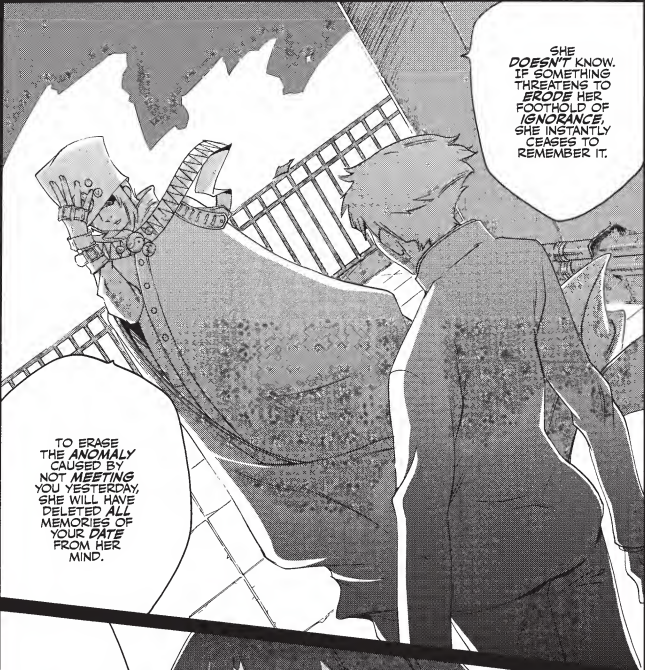
LOOKS
LIKE THAT
BOOGIEPOP
GUY WAS
RIGHT.

UH...
IT'S
NOT
IMPORTANT.
I JUST
WANTED
TO HEAR
YOUR
VOICE,
IS ALL.
SORRY.

SEE YOU
TOMORROW,
'KAY?

WHAT'S
THAT?

WHAT'S...

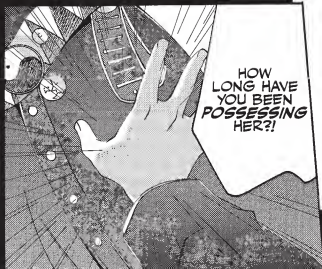


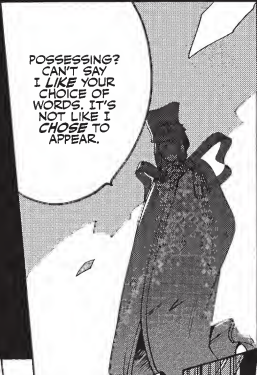
SHE
DOESN'T KNOW.
IF SOMETHING
THREATENS TO
ERODE HER
FOOTHOLD OF
IGNORANCE,
SHE INSTANTLY
CEASES TO
REMEMBER IT.

TO ERASE
THE ANOMALY
CAUSED BY
NOT *MEETING*
YOU YESTERDAY,
SHE WILL HAVE
DELETED ALL
MEMORIES OF
YOUR *DATE*
FROM HER
MIND.

YOU
MEAN...SHE'S
FORGOTTEN
THAT WE
WERE EVEN
SUPPOSED
TO MEET?

D-DELETED?





POSSESSING?
CAN'T SAY
I *LIKE* YOUR
CHOICE OF
WORDS. IT'S
NOT LIKE I
CHOSE TO
APPEAR.



THEN
WHY DO
YOU?!



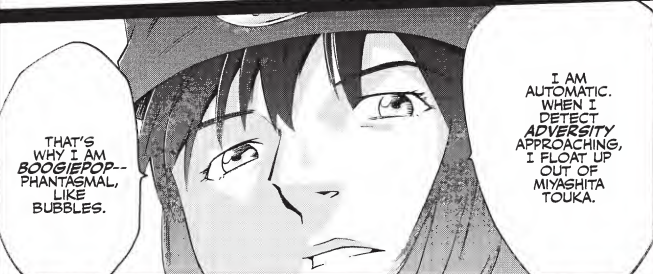
WOOSH



BECAUSE
DANGER
IS UPON
US.



DANGER...?



THAT'S
WHY I AM
BOOGIEPOP--
PHANTASMAL,
LIKE
BUBBLES.

I AM
AUTOMATIC.
WHEN I
DETECT
ADVERSITY
APPROACHING,
I FLOAT UP
OUT OF
MIYASHITA
TOUKA.



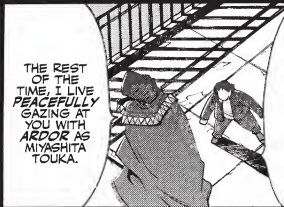
ADVERSITY?
WHAT
KIND OF...?

THERE IS
A **DEVIL**
NESTING
IN THIS
SCHOOL.

YOU
CAN'T BE
SERIOUS.

IT HAS
BARELY
BEGUN TO
STIR, BUT
ONCE IT
DOES, IT
SHALL
SPELL
THE **END**
OF THE
WORLD.

IT'S
HIDDEN
AMONG
YOU NOW,
BUT I
ASSURE
YOU...IT
POSES A
VERY REAL
THREAT.



THE REST
OF THE
TIME, I LIVE
PEACEFULLY
GAZING AT
YOU WITH
ARDOR AS
MIYASHITA
TOUKA.

I'M AWARE
OF YOUR
FEARS, WHICH
IS WHY I
NEVER APPEAR
FOR LONG.
THIS IS ALSO
AUTOMATIC.



BUT WHAT
ABOUT YOU?
AREN'T YOU
JUST THE
SAME?!



HEY!
WHAT'S
THAT
SUPPOSED
TO MEAN?



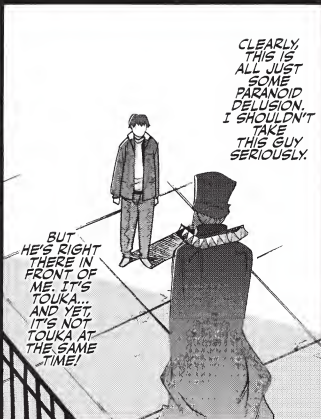
SO, UH, THIS
DANGEROUS
THING YOU'VE
BEEN GOING
ON ABOUT...
IT'S ONE
OF THE
STUDENTS?!

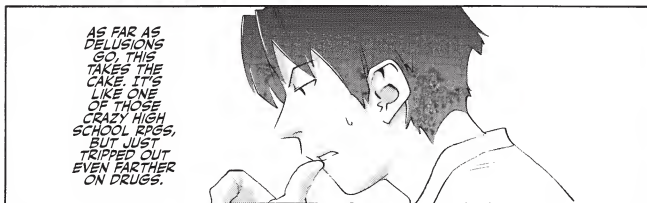
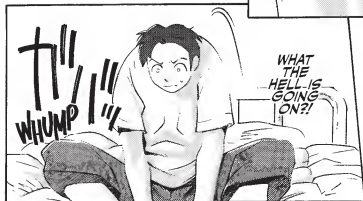


EVERY-
ONE HAS
ALREADY
GONE
HOME.
WOULDN'T
YOU
AGREE?!

MY
TIME TODAY
IS **NEARLY**
AT AN END.
THERE IS
LITTLE NEED
TO KEEP
WATCH ONCE
THE SCHOOL
DAY IS OVER.

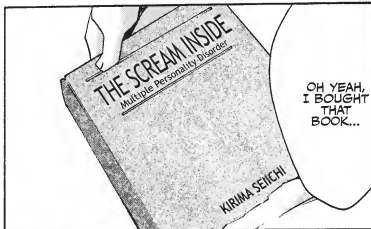








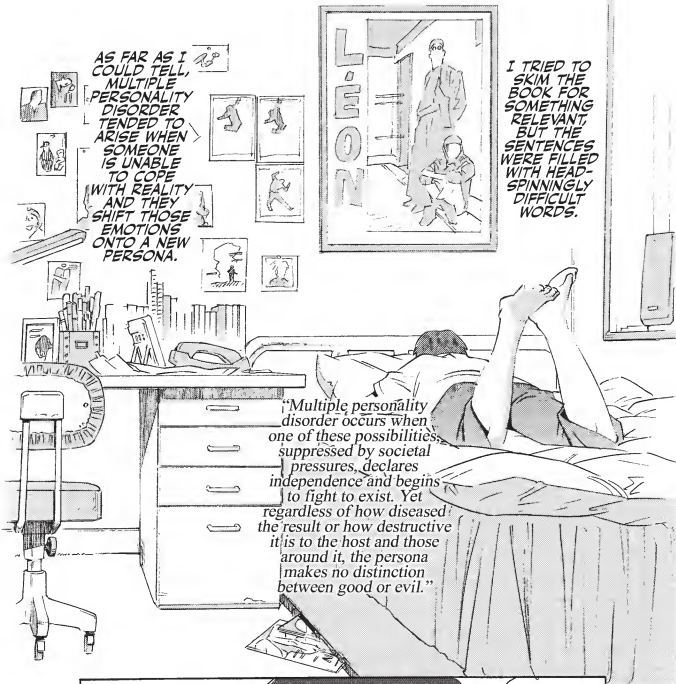
UGH, BUT I DON'T WANT TO GO AND DRAG TOUKA OFF TO SOME PSYCH WARD...



OH YEAH, I BOUGHT THAT BOOK...



"THIS DISEASE IS EXCEEDINGLY RARE--IF NOT ALMOST UNHEARD OF-- IN JAPAN." WAIT, HUH...?



AS FAR AS I
COULD TELL,
MULTIPLE
PERSONALITY
DISORDER
TENDED TO
ARISE WHEN
SOMEONE
IS UNABLE
TO COPE
WITH REALITY
AND THEY
SHIFT THOSE
EMOTIONS
ONTO A NEW
PERSONA.

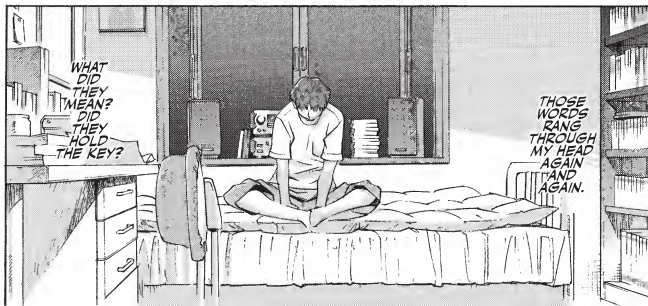
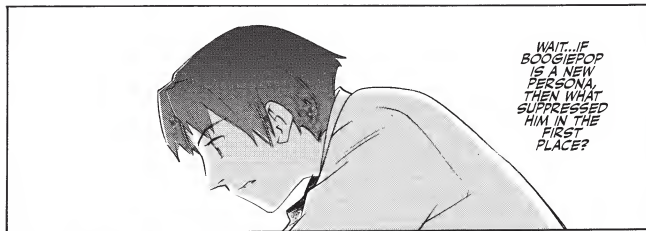
LEON

I TRIED TO
SKIM THE
BOOK FOR
SOMETHING
RELEVANT,
BUT THE
SENTENCES
WERE FILLED
WITH HEAD-
SPINNINGLY
DIFFICULT
WORDS.

"Multiple personality disorder occurs when one of these possibilities, suppressed by societal pressures, declares independence and begins to fight to exist. Yet regardless of how diseased the result or how destructive it is to the host and those around it, the persona makes no distinction between good or evil."

Hope
there's
never
a test
on this...

DID ANY
OF THAT
MAKE ANY
SENSE...?





第5話
Chapter Five



I NEEDED
ANSWERS,
SO I
ENDED UP
GOING
TO SEE
BOOSTER
AGAIN.

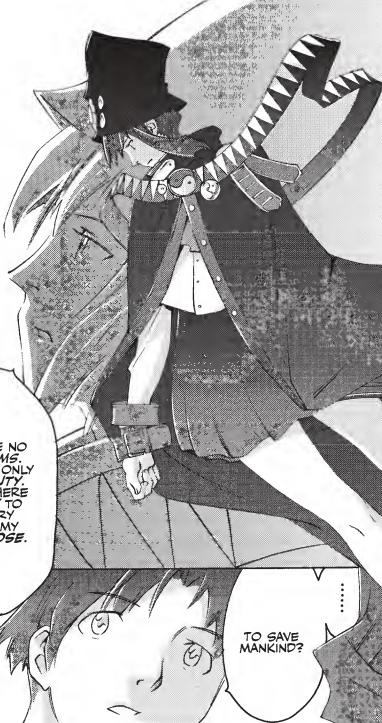
OCT.
26TH,
AFTER
SCHOOL



THAT
WRITER
HAS SOME
INTERESTING
THINGS TO
SAY.

A SUPPRESSED
POSSIBILITY?
HMM... THAT'S
NOT A BAD
EXPLANATION,
I SUPPOSE.





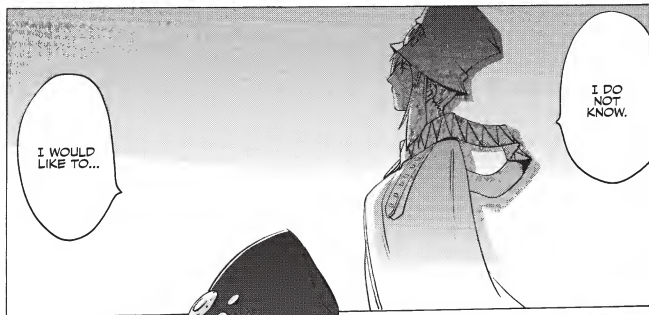
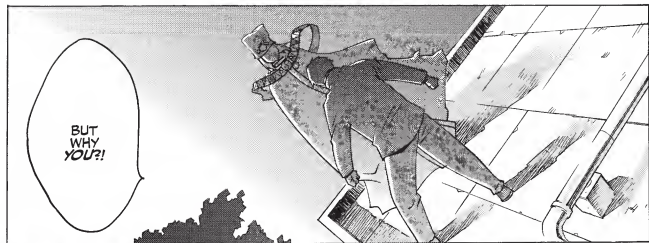
SHE
MAY WELL
HAVE SOME
POSSIBILITY...
SOME **HIDDEN**
DESIRE THAT
PRODUCED
ME. BUT THAT
IS NOT MY
CONCERN.

I HAVE NO
AUTONOMY
HERE. I
HAVE NO
IDEA WHAT
MIYASHITA
TOUKA
MIGHT BE
THINKING.

I HAVE NO
DREAMS.
I HAVE ONLY
MY **DUTY**.
I AM HERE
ONLY TO
CARRY
OUT MY
PURPOSE.

TO SAVE
MANKIND?

YES.





OBVIOUSLY,
PART OF
ME WANTED
TO SAY YES.
I MEAN,
TOUKA IS MY
GIRLFRIEND!

BUT
WAS HIS
PRESENCE
REALLY
HURTING
ANYONE?
DO I
REALLY
NEED TO
DO ANY-
THING?



NO...

I MEAN,
I, UH...
I DUNNO.



IF
ONLY
THERE
WERE
NO NEED
FOR ME...

I ADMIT
IT WOULD
BE **BETTER**
IF I DID
NOT EXIST.



NOT
EASY
FOR
YOU,
IS IT?



ABOUT
THE ONLY
THING IT
ACTUALLY
INTERFERES
WITH IS OUR
DATES.

CAN
I ASK
YOU
SOME-
THING?

SAY...

I SUPPOSE.

I'M
HARDLY
EVER
HERE,
THOUGH.

WHAT'S
THAT?

YOU SAID
SOMETHING
TO THAT
HOMELESS
GUY. WHAT
WAS IT?

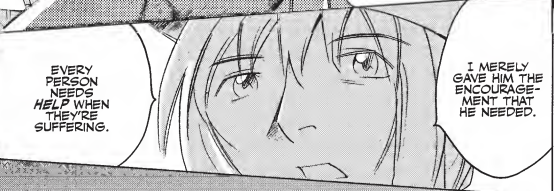
THE
FIRST
TIME I
SAW
YOU...



NOTHING
IMPORTANT.



BUT *HOW*
DID YOU
GET HIM
TO STOP
CRYING?



EVERY
PERSON
NEEDS
HELP WHEN
THEY'RE
SUFFERING.

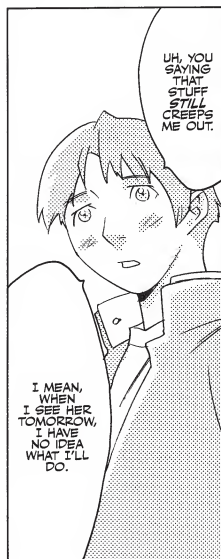
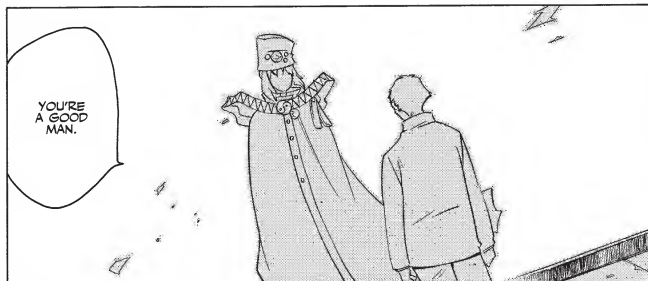
I MERELY
GAVE HIM THE
ENCOURAGE-
MENT THAT
HE NEEDED.



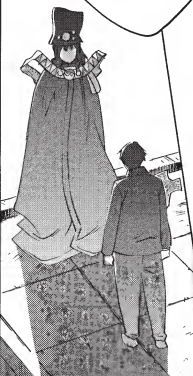
HOW
DID YOU
KNOW?

HE
NEEDED
HELP?



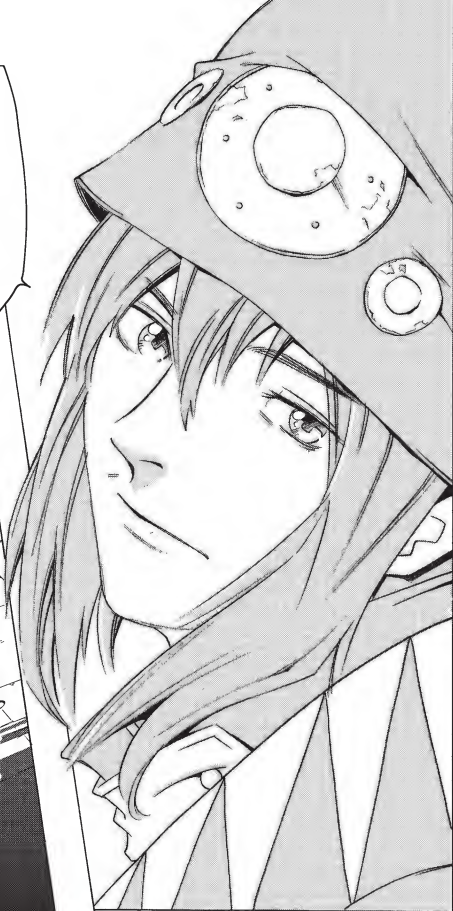


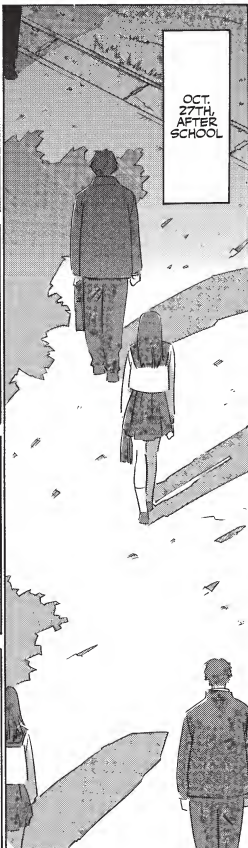
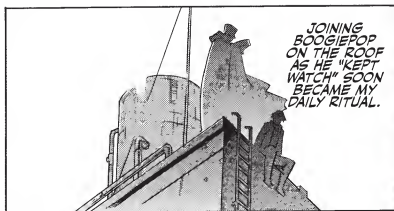
DON'T
WORRY.
I AM ME...
AND SHE IS
HERSELF.

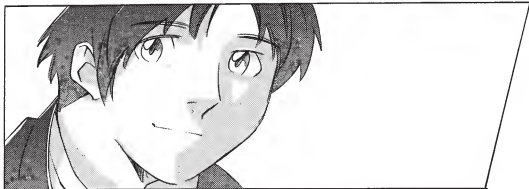


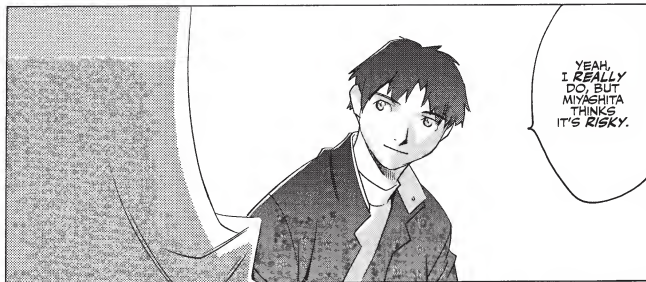
...BUT AT
THE TIME,
IT SEEMED
LIKE HE
WAS BEING
SARCASTIC
AND MORE
THAN A
LITTLE
DIABOLOGICAL.

LATER, I
WONDERED
IF THAT
EXPRES-
SION WAS
SOME
KIND OF
STRAINED
GRIN...









YEAH,
I *REALLY*
DO, BUT
MIYASHITA
THINKS
IT'S *RISKY*.



I DON'T
KNOW HER ALL
THAT WELL, BUT
THERE ARE *FAR*
MORE GIRLS WHO
SHUN ROMANTIC
MEN THAN THERE
ARE THOSE WHO
ARE ATTRACTED
TO THEM.

SHE
WOULD.



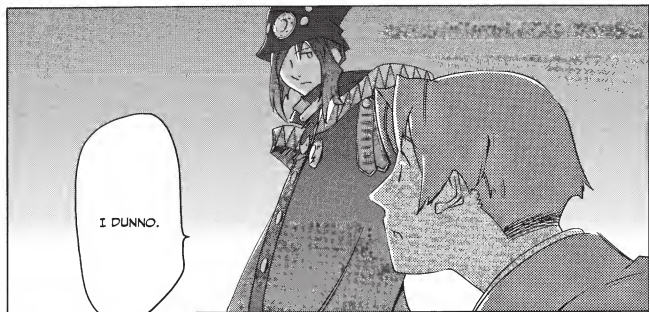
REALLY?

ME?
ROMANTIC?!



AM I
WRONG?

I HAVE
NO SUCH
HOPES, BUT
I *BELIEVE*
HUMANS
NEED SOME
SORT OF
DREAM.





ALL
THIS FROM
A SELF-
PROCLAIMED
DEFENDER
OF THE
WORLD.

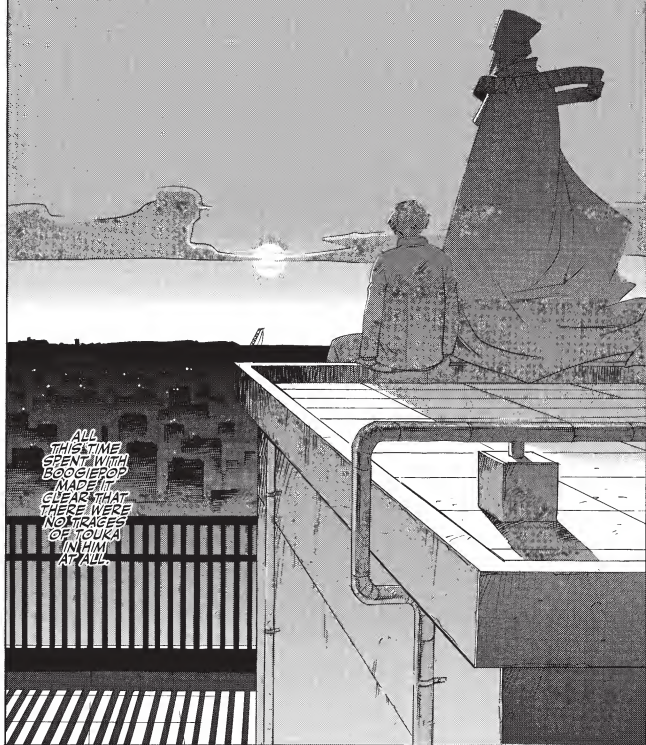
IF YOU
SAW HIM IN
A CROWD,
YOU'D TAKE
HIM FOR
A CLOWN.
BUT HIS
WORDS
CARRIED
WEIGHT.

THEN
I WANT
TO BE A
CLOWN
TOO.

IT
MAKES
ME THINK
THAT IF A
SINGLE
CLOWN
COULD
CHANGE
THE
WORLD...

第6話

Chapter Six



ALL
THIS TIME
SPENT WITH
BOOGIEPOP
MADE IT
CLEAR THAT
THERE WERE
NO TRACES
OF TONKA
IN HIM
AT ALL.

ONE OF MIYASHITA
TOUKA'S RELATIVES
HAD PASSED AWAY,
AND I BELIEVE THAT'S
WHEN SHE **FIRST** NOTICED
HER PARENTS ON THE
VERGE OF DIVORCE. HER
UNCERTAIN FEELINGS
AT THE TIME MAY HAVE
PRODUCED A **STUBBORN**
CREATURE LIKE ME.

ABOUT FIVE
YEARS AGO,
NEAR THE
CREMATORY.

SAY...
WHEN
DID YOU
FIRST
COME
OUT?

I HAD A
HUNCH
ABOUT
WHICH
KILLER
HE WAS
TALKING
ABOUT.

BUT I,
MYSELF,
WAS FAR
TOO BUSY
FIGHTING
A KILLER
STALKING
THE STREETS
TO REALLY
PAY MUCH
ATTENTION
TO EVENTS
OF THE
HOME.

BUT IT
MAKES
SENSE
THAT HIS
DELUSION
WOULD IN
CORPORATE
SUCH A
WELL-
KNOWN
STORY.

SOME SERIAL
KILLER HAD
MURDERED FIVE
GIRLS AND THEN
HUNG HIMSELF
JUST WHEN THE
POLICE WERE
ABOUT TO CATCH
HIM. HOW COULD
I NOT REMEMBER
THAT? IT WAS ALL
THE NEWS TALKED
ABOUT FIVE YEARS
AGO.



SHE WAS
HYSTERICAL.
CAUSED ME
NO END OF
TROUBLE.



MIYASHITA'S
MOTHER
SOUNDED
LIKE SHE
KNEW
ABOUT YOU.



MM, SHE'S
SEEN ME A FEW
TIMES. BACK IN
JUNIOR HIGH, SHE
ONCE CAUGHT ME
CLIMBING OUT
THE WINDOW.



MUST'VE
BEEN
SURPRISED.

BUT
WHEN SHE
LOCKED
ME IN THE
HOUSE, I
KNOCKED
THE WOMAN
OUT AND
MADE MY
ESCAPE.

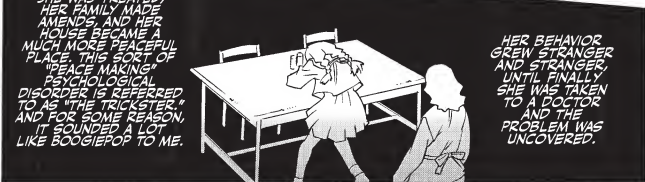
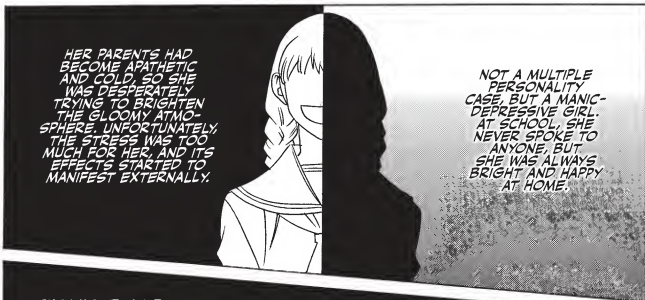
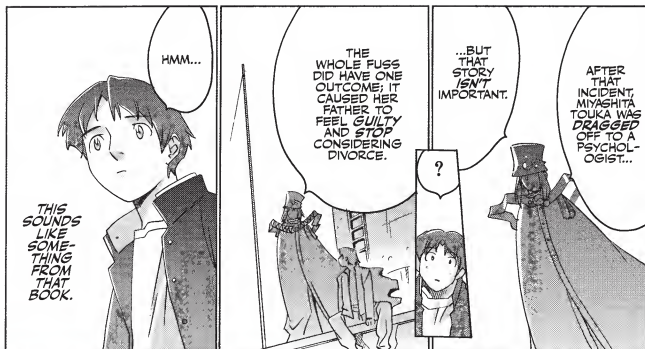


DON'T
YOU SEE?
DANGER WAS
APPROACHING.
IT WAS MY
DUTY.

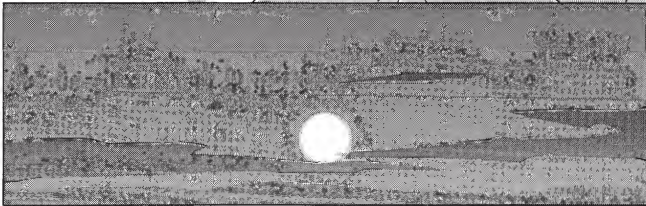
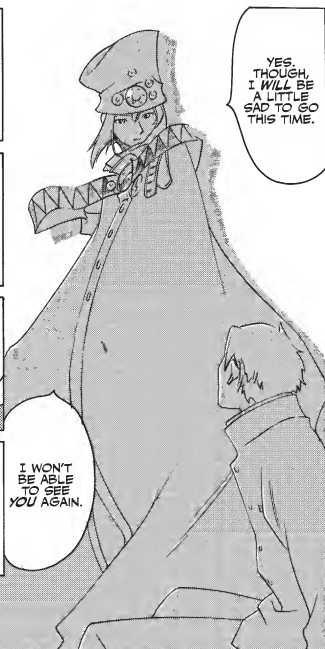


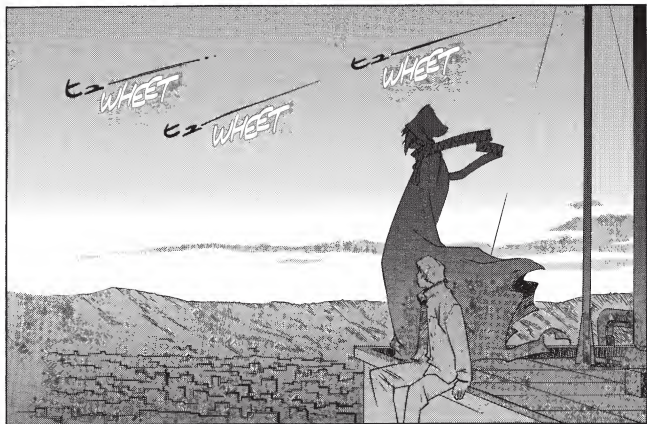
no
wonder
she
freaked...

S-SERIOUSLY?

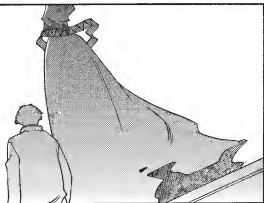








IT'S IRONIC.
I REMEMBER
TRYING TO
GET TOUKA
TO WHISTLE
ONCE AND
SHE COULDN'T.

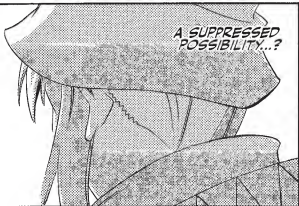


I COULD
HEAR
BOOGIEPOP
WHISTLING.

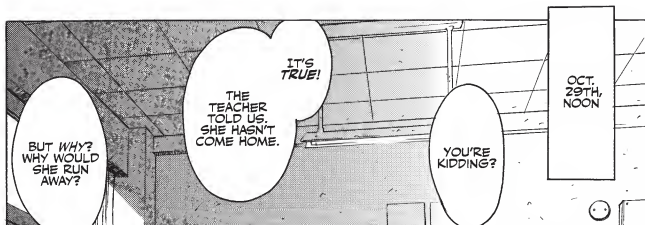


THE
TUNE WAS
LOUD AND
SOMBER
AND I LEFT
ME WITH
SAD A PIT
IN MY
STOMACH.

EVEN AS HER
BOYFRIEND,
I SUPPOSE
I WAS ALSO
SUPPRESSING
SOME PART
OF HER.

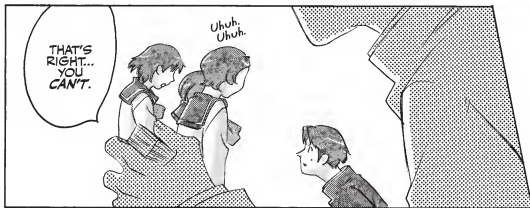
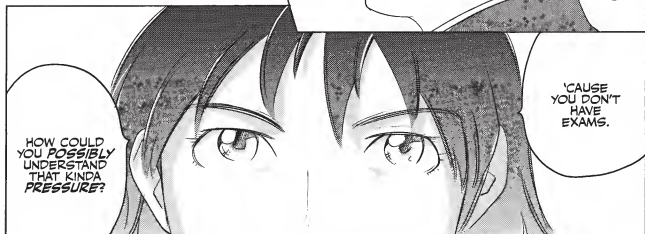
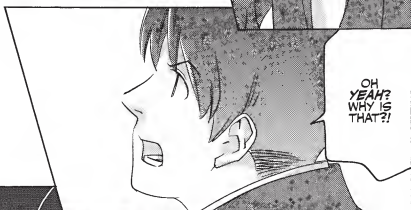


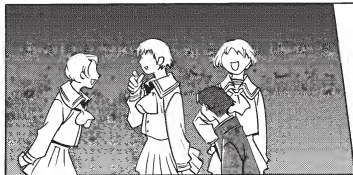
A SUPPRESSED
POSSIBILITY...?



NO
REASON.
SHE JUST
UP AND
STOPPED
COMING
TO SCHOOL.
IT WAS
LIKE SHE'D
RUN AWAY.







NOT ONE
OF THEM
SEEMED THE
LEAST BIT
CONCERNED
ABOUT HER.

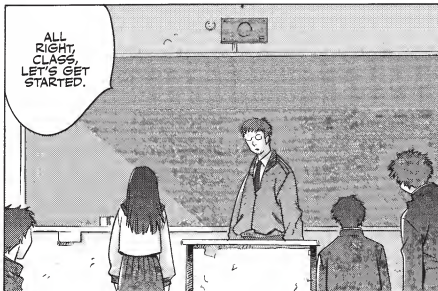


I'D RUN
AWAY IF I
COULD.

BUT I CAN'T.
I'M NOT LIKE
KAMIKISHIRO.



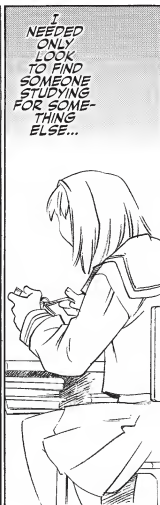
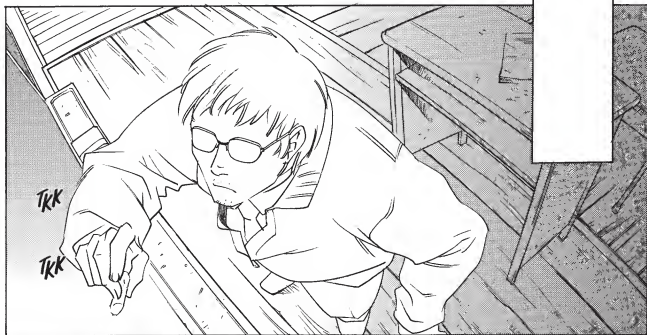
DO
YOU PEOPLE
THINK TO DO
NOTHING
WHEN YOU SEE
A FELLOW
HUMAN
CRYING?!

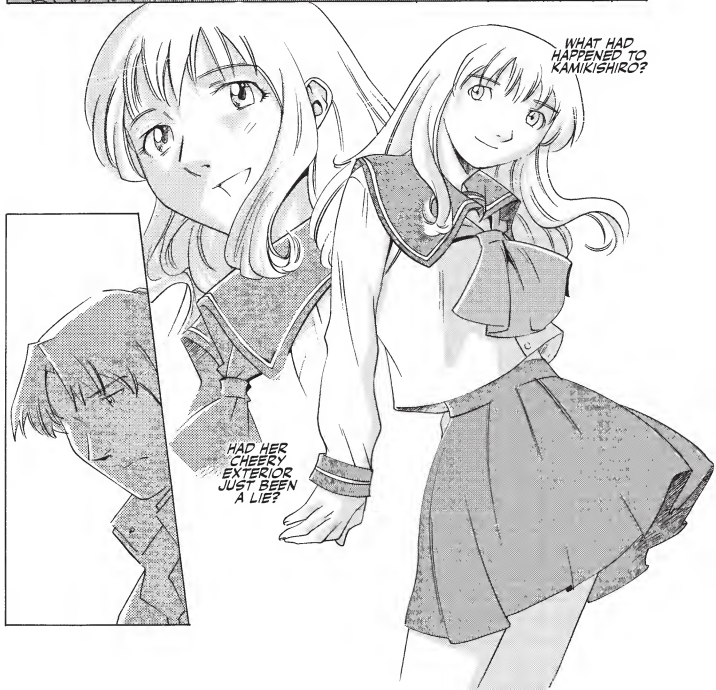
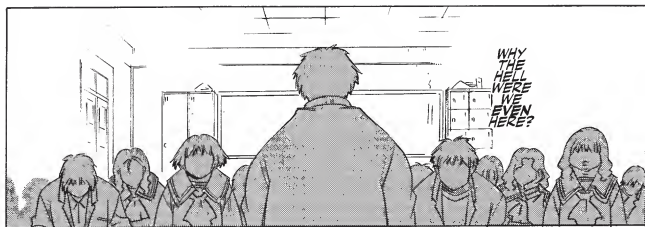


ALL
RIGHT,
CLASS.
LET'S GET
STARTED.



IT'S
JUST AS
BOOGIEPOP
SAID.

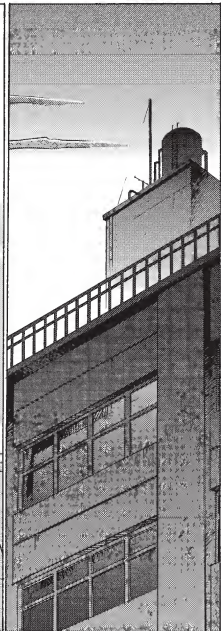
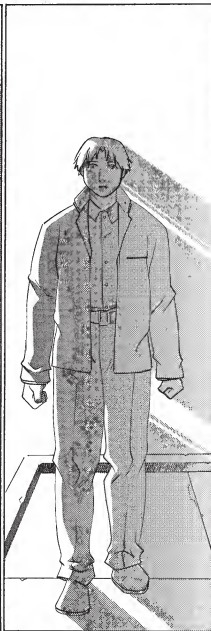
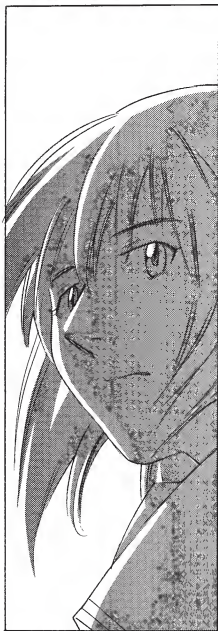


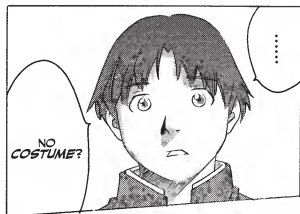


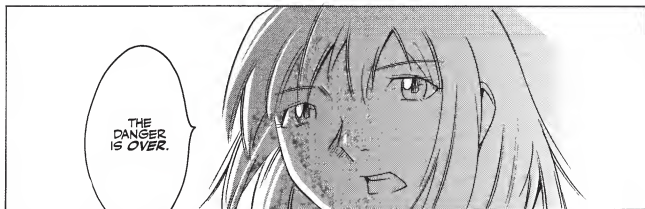
*Life is brief,
young maiden,
fall in love;
before the crimson
bloom fades from
your lips,
before the tides
of passion cool
within your hips,
for those of you
who know no
tomorrow.*



*THAT DAY,
BOOGIEROP
WASN'T
WAITING ON
THE ROOF.*





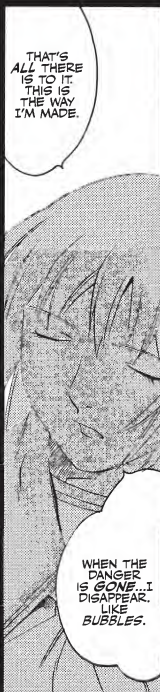




I'M
SORRY,
TAKEDA-
KUN...

THIS IS
GOODBYE.

Chapter Seven
第7話





BUT...

I DID.
IT'S DEAD.

BUT YOU
SAID YOU
WERE GOING
TO FIGHT
THE DEVIL
THAT LIVES
IN THIS
SCHOOL!

BUT...

THAT'S...

I'M NOT
THE ONE
THAT
KILLED IT,
THOUGH.

Bow

THANK
YOU...

TAKEDA-KUN.

UNTIL NOW,
ALL I'D *EVER*
DONE WAS
FIGHT YOU'RE
THE FIRST
TRUE FRIEND
I'VE HAD.

I *ENJOYED*
MY TIME
WITH YOU.

BUT I
HAD *FUN*.
I *MEAN*
THAT.

I DID.

PERHAPS
YOU *ONLY*
SPENT TIME
WITH ME
BECAUSE
I'M *PART* OF
MIYASHITA
TOUKA...

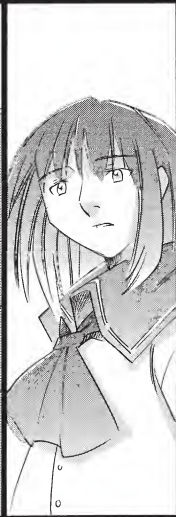
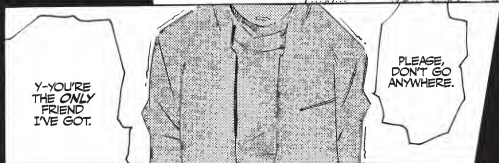
EVERY-
THING
I EVER
WANTED
TO SAY BUT
COULDN'T.
HE COULDN'T
SAY IT AT
THE DROP
OF A HAT.
HE'S THE
KIND OF
FRIEND
EVERYONE
WISHES
THEY HAD.

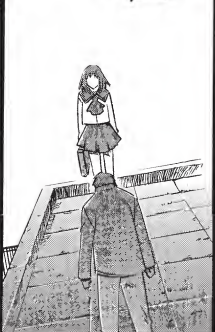
AT THAT
MOMENT,
I REALIZED
JUST HOW
MUCH I
LIKED HIM.
I'D LIKED
HIM SINCE
WE MET IN
TOWN.

IT'S NOT
BECAUSE
HE HAS
TOUKA'S
FACE.
I LIKE
HIM FOR
WHAT HE
SAYS.
WHAT HE
STANDS
FOR.

PLEASE...

DON'T...
DON'T
GO.







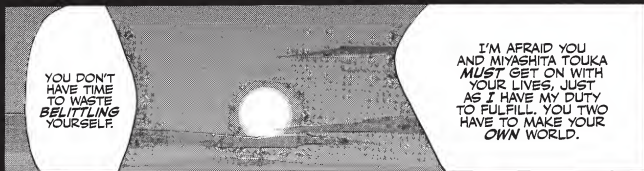
AREN'T
YOU?

YOU'RE
THE WISER...



M-MAYBE...
BUT...

...



YOU DON'T
HAVE TIME
TO WASTE
BELITTLING
YOURSELF.

I'M AFRAID YOU
AND MIYASHITA TOUKA
MUST GET ON WITH
YOUR LIVES, JUST
AS I HAVE MY DUTY
TO FULFILL. YOU TWO
HAVE TO MAKE YOUR
OWN WORLD.



BUT
WHY CAN'T
YOU...?

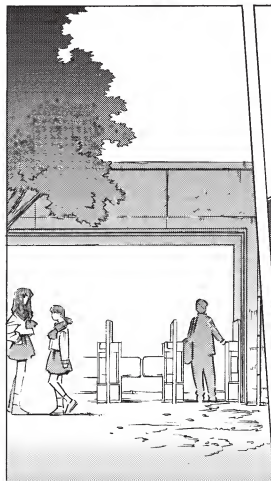
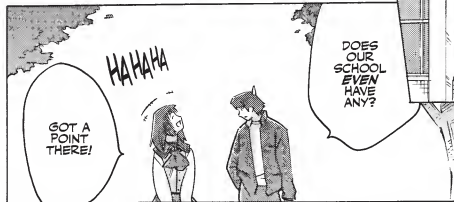
JUST LIKE
THE FIRST
TIME I SAW
HIM, HE'D
VANISHED
INTO THE
WIND.

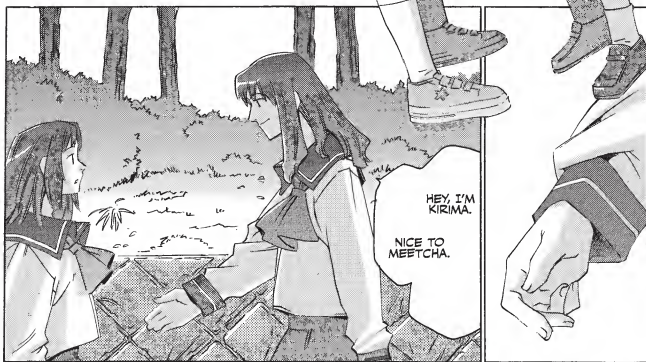
THERE WAS
NO SIGN
OF HIM
ANYWHERE.

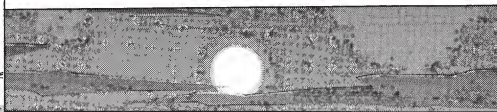
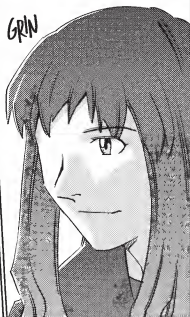
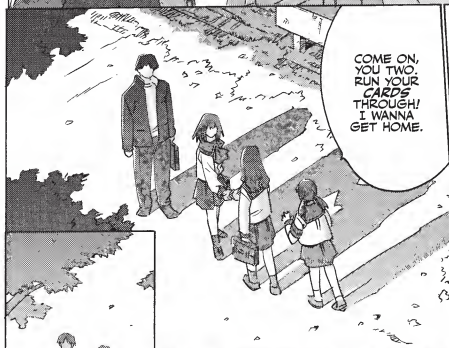
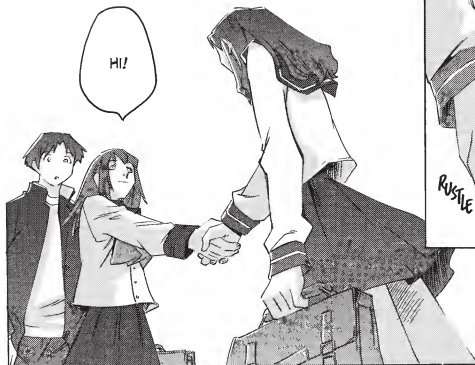


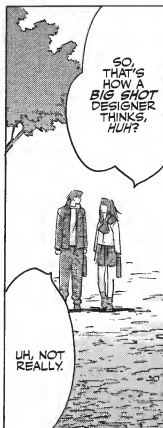


ON THE ROOF?!









SO, THAT'S
HOW A
BIG SHOT
DESIGNER
THINKS,
HUH?

UH, NOT
REALLY.



MM...

AT
LEAST
THEY'RE
STILL
PRETTY
WHEN
THEY'RE
FALLING.

THESE
LEAVES
LOOK SO
BEAUTIFUL
WHEN
THEY'RE
FALLING,
BUT NOW
THEY'RE
JUST A
MESS.



HEY,
I'M
NOT--!



YOU UP
AND DECIDED
WHAT YOU
WERE GOING
TO DO AND NOW
YOU'RE OFF
SNICKERING
AT THE REST
OF US.



AAAAH, I'M
JEALOUS.

YOU
KNOW
THAT,
RIGHT?
YOU'RE
MR. CON-
FIDENT
NOW.



THE
"DANGER"
HAD
PASSED.



ACK!
Even my
socks?!

SHE HAD
TOLD ME OF
HER WORRIES
THROUGH
BOOGIEPOP,
AND SHE
NO LONGER
NEEDED TO
BE AFRAID.

I LOOKED
AT TOUKA'S
PRETTY,
CHEERFUL
SMILE, AND
THOUGHT...

'BOOGIE-
POP
CAN'T DO
THAT.'

SO
STUPID!

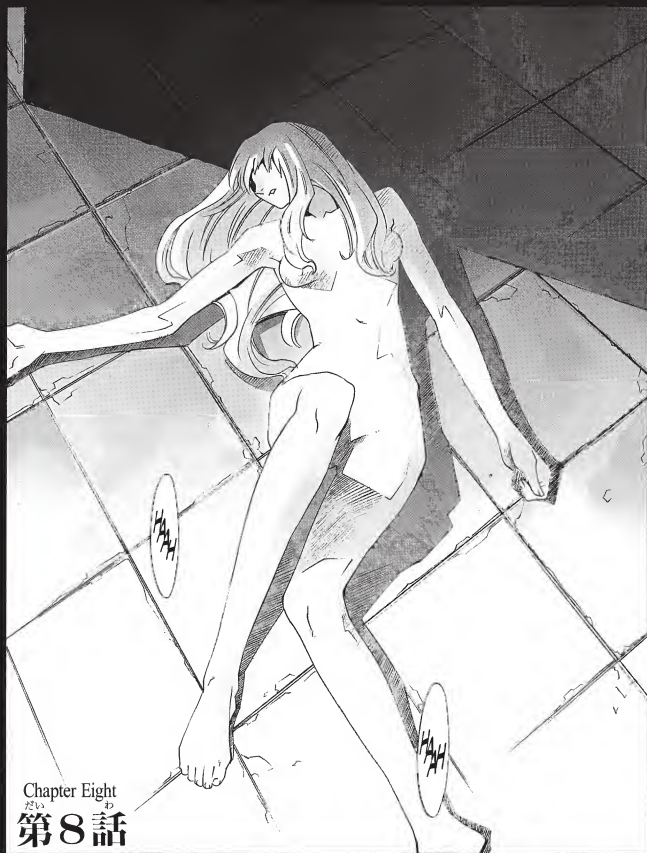
hee
hee
hee.

IF
YOU CAN
SMILE,
THEN
YOU CAN
LAUGH.
AND THAT'S
OUR JOB.

A-ah
not!

Ah!
You're
making
fun of me,
neanie!





Chapter Eight
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第8話











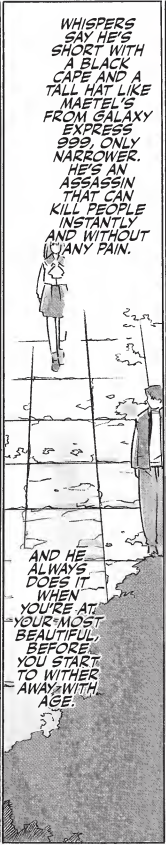




REALITY
IS ALWAYS
RATHER
DREARY.



NOBODY
KNOWS WHERE
HE'S FROM. BUT
MOST PEOPLE
SEEM TO AGREE
HE HAS SOME-
THING TO DO
WITH ALL THE
AREA'S MISSING
HIGH SCHOOL
GIRLS.



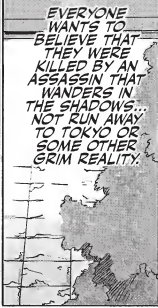
WHISPERS
SAY HE'S
SHORT WITH
A BLACK
CAPE AND A
TALL HAT LIKE
MAETEL'S
FROM GALAXY
EXPRESS
999, ONLY
NARROWER.
HE'S AN
ASSASSIN
THAT CAN
KILL PEOPLE
INSTANTLY
AND WITHOUT
ANY PAIN.



LATELY
THERE'S
BEEN A
STRANGE
RUMOR
SPREADING
AMONGST
THE SECOND
YEAR GIRLS.
OKAY, MAYBE
IT'S MORE
OF A GHOST
STORY.



WHEN
PEOPLE
VANISH
FROM IT,
IT'S NATURAL
TO WANT TO
CONNECT
THEM TO
SOME SORT
OF OTHER-
WORLDLY
FANTASY.
IT'S HUMAN
NATURE.

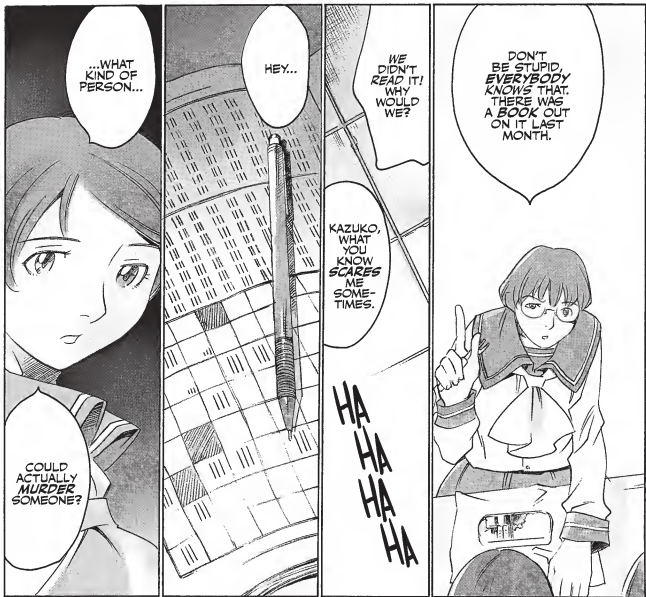


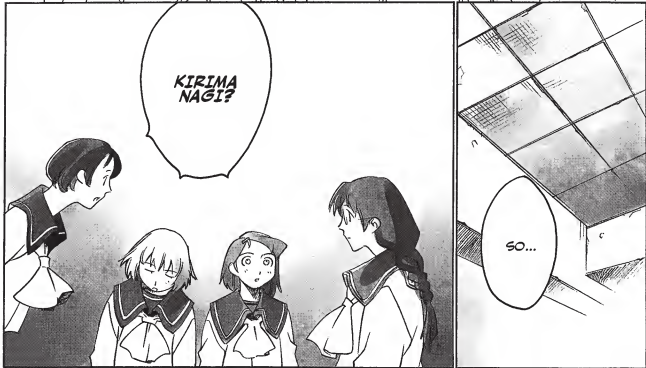
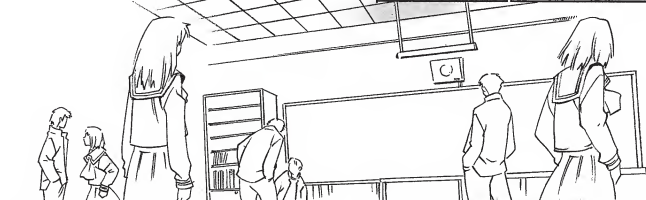
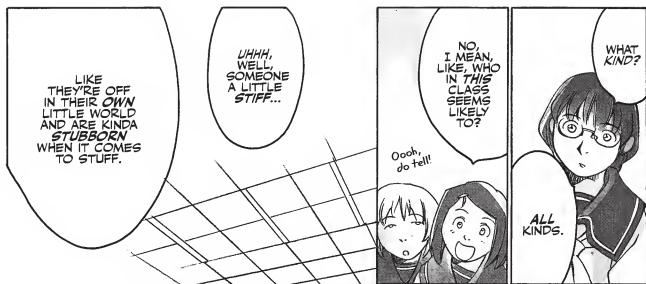
EVERYONE
WANTS TO
BELIEVE THAT
THEY WERE
KILLED BY AN
ASSASSIN THAT
WANDERS IN
THE SHADOWS...
NOT RUN AWAY
TO TOKYO OR
SOME OTHER
GRIM REALITY.

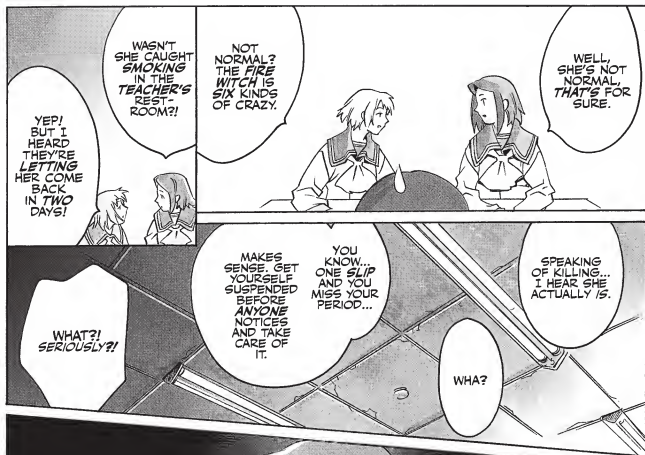


AND HE
ALWAYS
DOES IT
WHEN
YOU'RE AT
YOUR MOST
BEAUTIFUL,
BEFORE
YOU START
TO WITHER
AWAY WITH
AGE.









KIND OF A
TURN-ON,
HUA?
COULD
WONDER
HOW HE
KILLS 'EM...
USE A
KNIFE
OR...OOO,
WHAT
ABOUT
STRANGU-
LATION?!

EW, NO!
BOOGIEPOP'S
A BEAUTIFUL
BOY, STUPID!

YOU
THINK THE
FIRE WITCH IS
BOOGIEPOP?



UGH, NOT
THAT AGAIN.
THAT'S ALL
THESE GIRLS
EVER TALK
ABOUT.



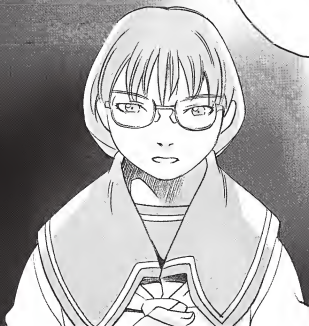
HEY,
SUEMA?
WE NEED
YOUR
EXPERT
OPINION
OVER HERE!

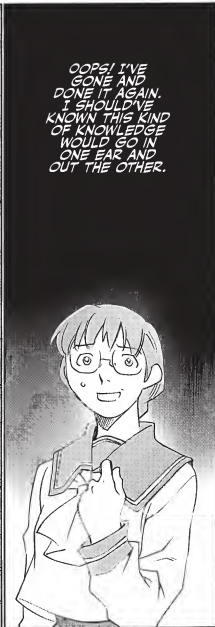
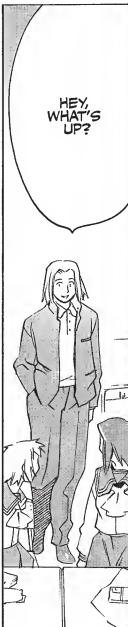
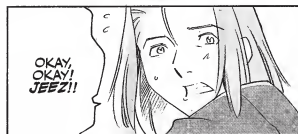
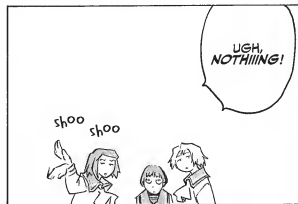
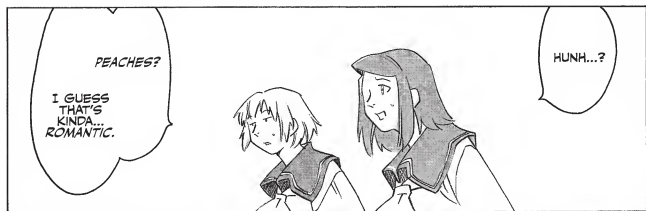


IT'S COLORLESS
AND INVISIBLE, BUT
VERY POISONOUS,
AND IT KILLS YOU
INSTANTLY. YOU
CAN SPRAY IT ON
SOMEONE, AND IT
VANISHES WITHOUT
LEAVING ANY TRACE
EVIDENCE. THE
VICTIM'S BODY ISN'T
EVEN DIRTY.

HYDRO-
CYANIC
ACID
GAS.

EVEN
SMELLS
LIKE
PEACHES.





WELL,
ASIDE FROM
KIRIMA-SAN,
THAT IS.

FUNNY
THING IS,
IT SEEMED
I WAS THE
LAST ONE
IN CLASS
TO HEAR
ABOUT IT.

AND, OF
COURSE,
YURIHARA-
SAN. SHE'S
ONE OF
THE TOP
STUDENTS
IN THE
WHOLE
SCHOOL.

ALWAYS THE
LAST TO HEAR
ABOUT STUFF. IT'S
SO DEPRESSING.
IT'S NOT LIKE I
REALLY WANTED TO
HEAR THEIR STUPID
STORY ANYWAY,
BUT THE LEAST
I COULD DO WAS
NOD WHENEVER
IT SEEMED
APPROPRIATE.
OH WELL...

Oh, and did
I mention
he's cute?!

BUT
IT'S NO
WONDER
NO ONE
HAD TOLD
HER.

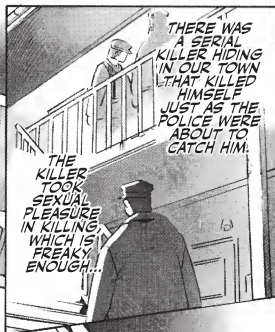
FIVE
YEARS
AGO,
BACK
WHEN
I WAS
IN THE
SEVENTH
GRADE,
I WAS
ALMOST
KILLED.



MY
INTEREST
IN CRIMINAL
AND
ABNORMAL
PSYCHOLOGY
ACTUALLY
STEMS FROM
A VERY
PERSONAL
EXPERIENCE
I HAD.

Chapter Nine
第9話

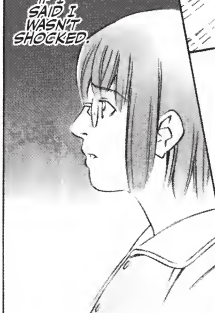
...BUT
AMONG
EVIDENCE
HE LEFT
BEHIND
WERE
PICTURES
OF ME, MY
ADDRESS
AND A
DETAILED
LOG OF
MY DAILY
ACTIVITIES.



THERE WAS
A SERIAL
KILLER HIDING
IN OUR TOWN
THAT KILLED
HIMSELF
JUST AS THE
POLICE WERE
ABOUT TO
CATCH HIM.

THE
KILLER
TOOK
SEXUAL
PLEASURE
IN KILLING,
WHICH IS
FREAKY
ENOUGH...

WOULD
BE
LYING
IF I
SAID I
WASN'T
SHOCKED.



HAD
HE NOT
COMMITTED
SUICIDE...

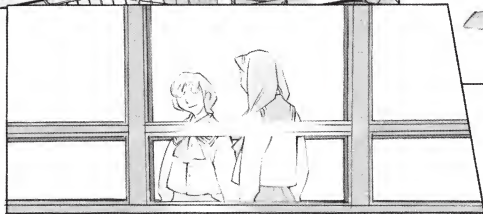
...I
MIGHT'VE
BEEN
HIS NEXT
VICTIM.

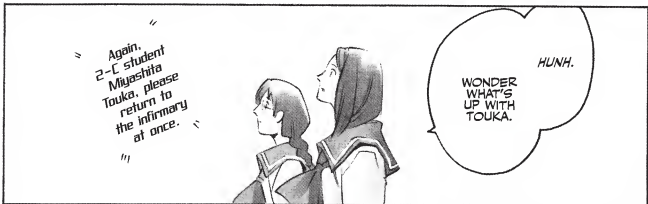
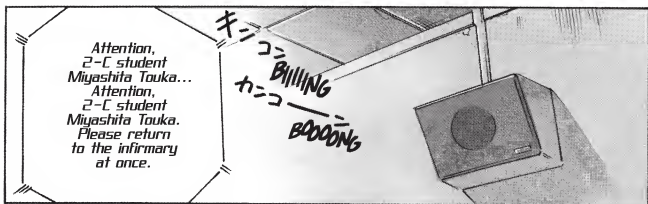
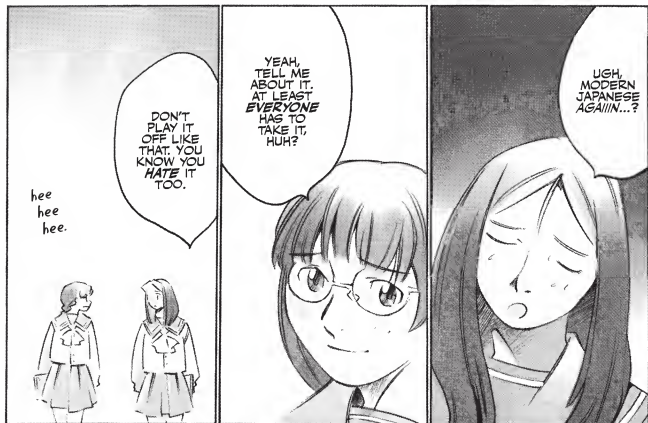
THE VERY
NEED TO
UNDER-
STAND HIS
MOTIVATION
IS WHAT
LED ME
DOWN THIS
MORBID
PATH.

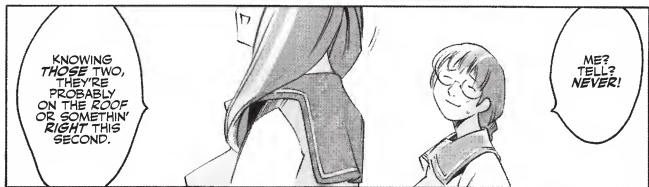
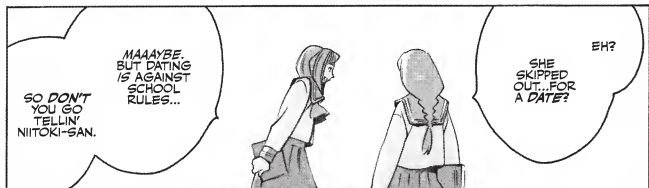
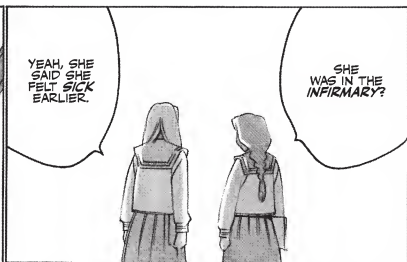
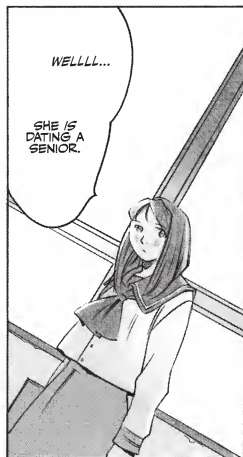


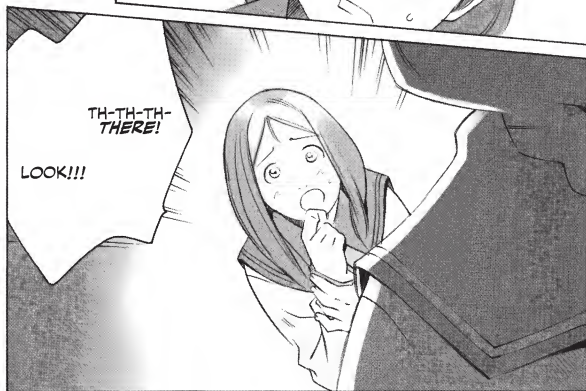
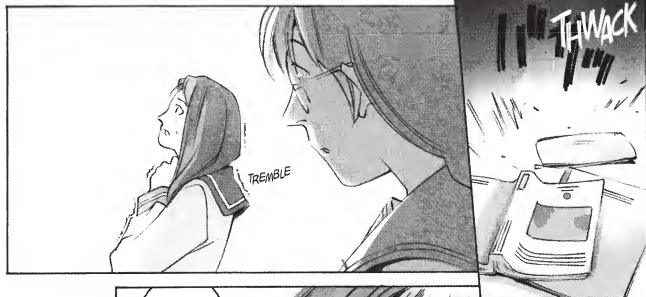
I WAS
LEFT
STUNNED
WITH A
TRULY
UNREAL
AND
SHAKEN
FEELING.

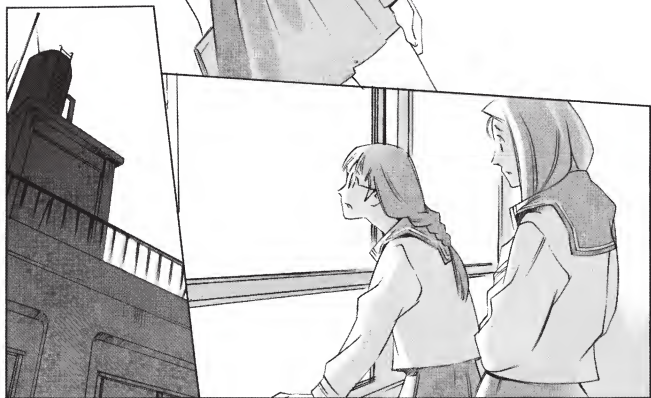
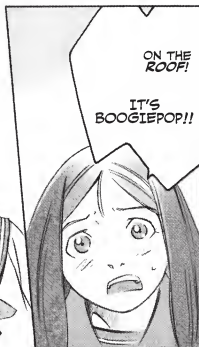
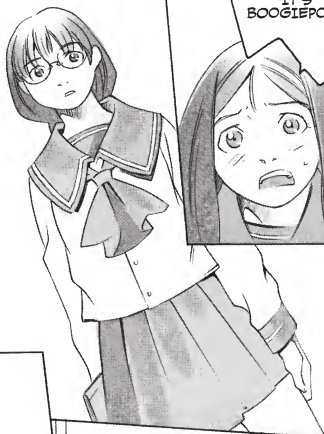
DO YOU
HAVE ANY
IDEA
HOW IT
FEELS
TO KNOW
THE FATE
OF YOUR
LIFE HAD
BEEN IN
THE HANDS
OF SOME
SERIAL
KILLER?

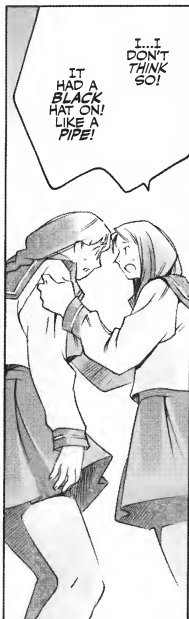


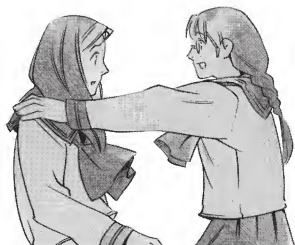












OKAY.

I
BELIEVE
YOU, SO...
LET'S GO
LOOK.



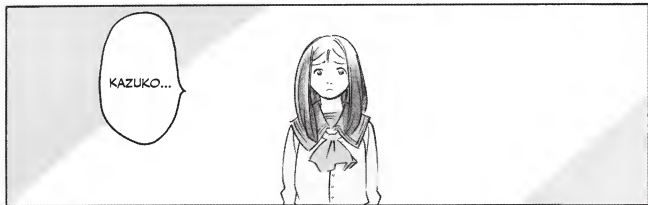
DON'T
WORRY.
I'LL MEET
YOU BACK
IN CLASS,
OKAY?



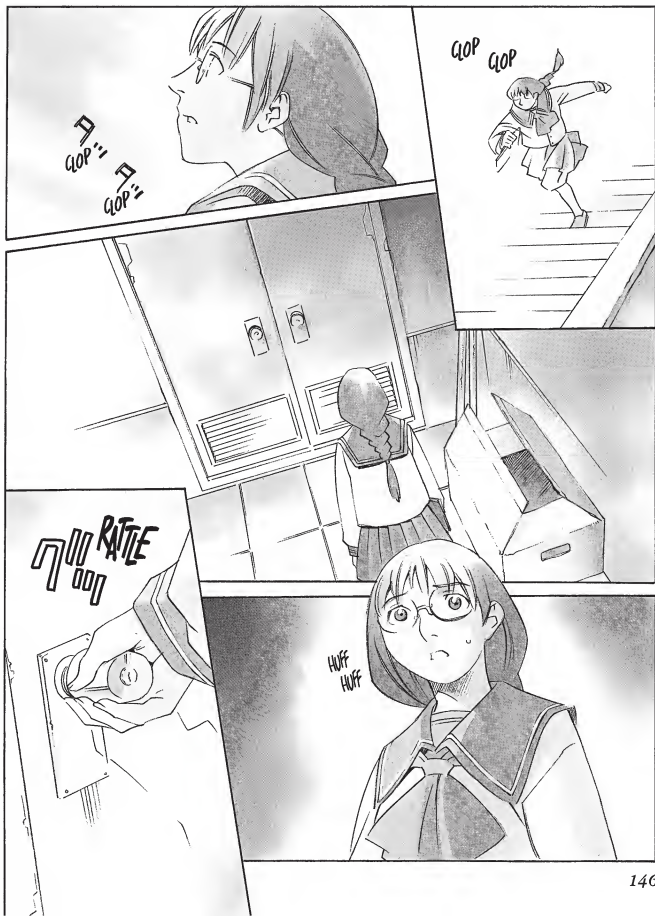
NO!
DON'T!
IT'S TOO
DANGER-
OUS!

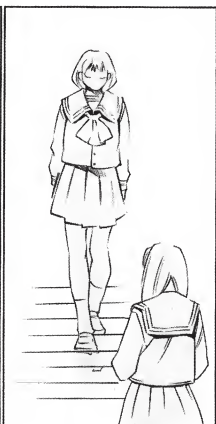
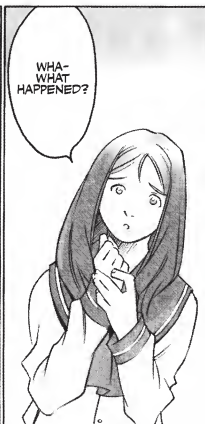


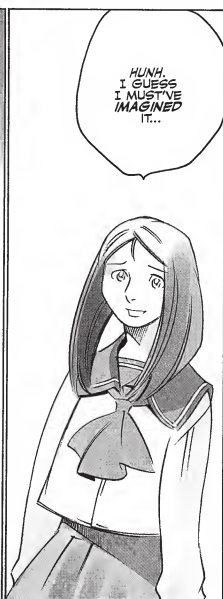
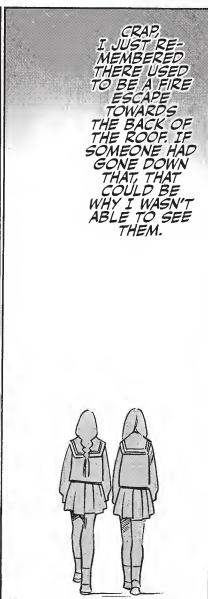
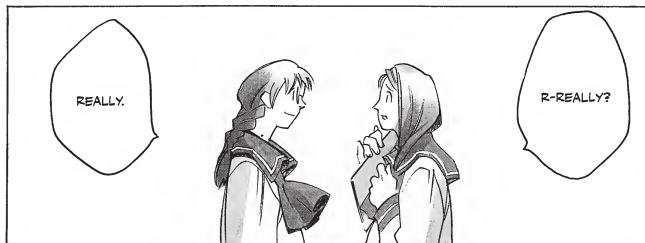
IF
BOOGIEPOP
IS **REAL**,
THEN I
WANT TO
SEE HIM.



KAZUKO...

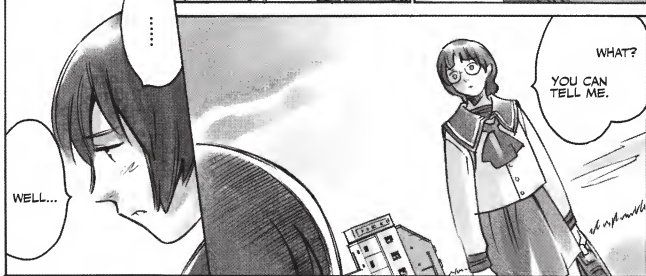


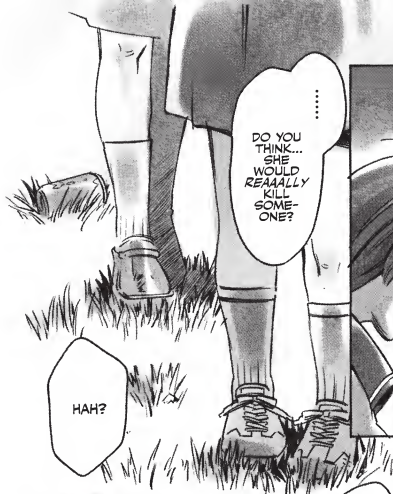


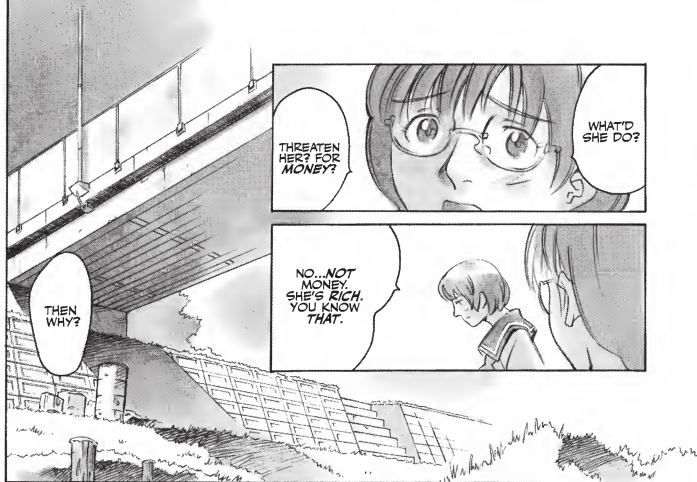


第10話
Chapter Ten









EVEN SO, IT'S
HARD TO
IMAGINE SHE
INTENTIONALLY
GOT HERSELF
SUSPENDED.
THAT KIND OF
THING GOES
ON YOUR
PERMANENT
TRANSCRIPT.



...BUT FOR
HAVING
AN UNLIT
CIGARETTE
IN HER LIPS
WHILE BEING
IN THE
TEACHER'S
RESTROOM
NO LESS!



COME TO
THINK OF IT,
NAGI HAD
ACTUALLY
NOT BEEN
SUSPENDED
FOR
SMOKING...

WHAT FOR?

WHY?

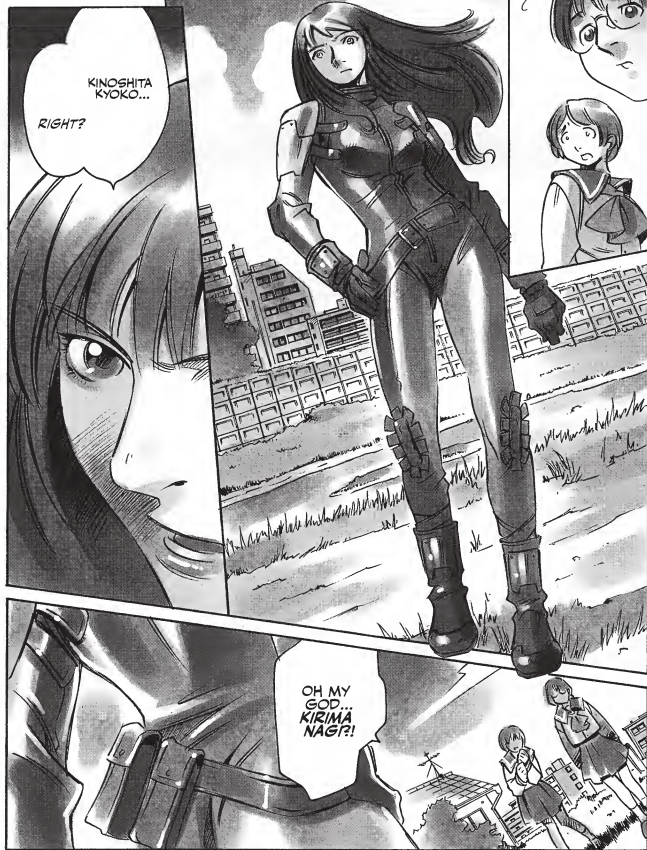
EEE!



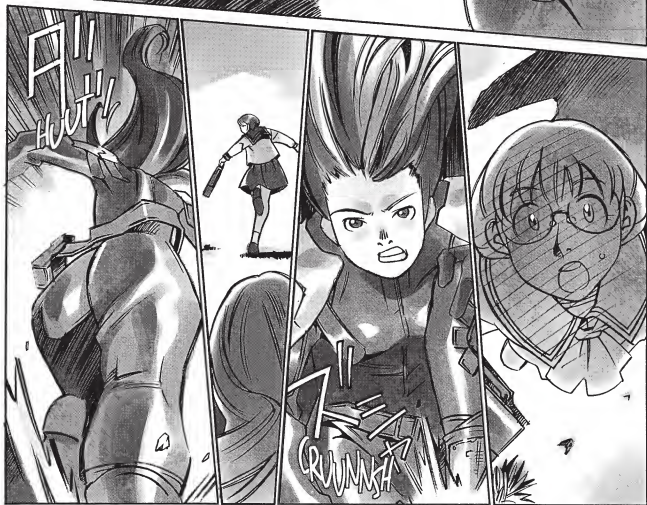
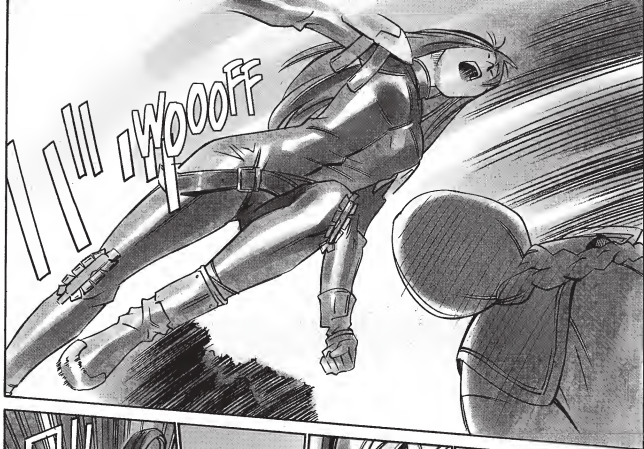
SHE'S...

THAT'S
GOING
A TAD
OVER-
BOARD.

SHE'S
GONNA
KILL ME.

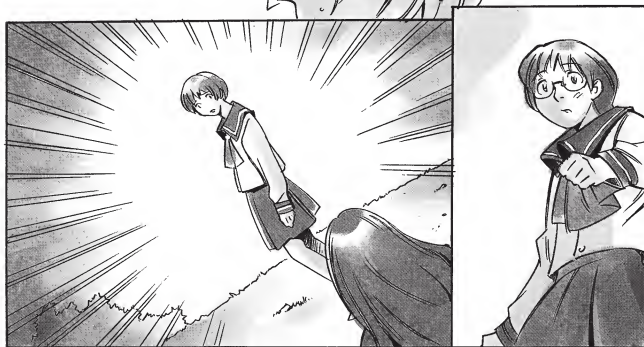








ドギキ
FREEZE!!







DRUGS?

SO,
JUST KEEP
PRETENDING
AND YOU'LL
LOSE THAT
ARM!

IT'S NOT
JUST ME.
ECHOES IS
LOOKING
FOR YOU
TOO!

PLEASE...
PLEASE
DON'T!
PLEASE!!

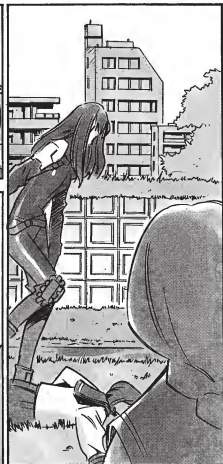
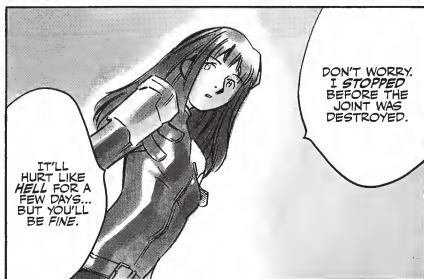
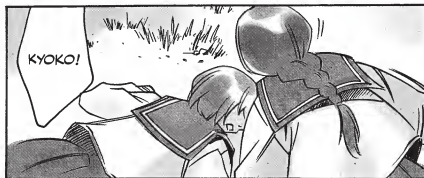
I SWEAR!
I SWEAR
TO GOD
I'LL **NEVER**
DO DRUGS
AGAIN!

KUSATSU
AKIKO?

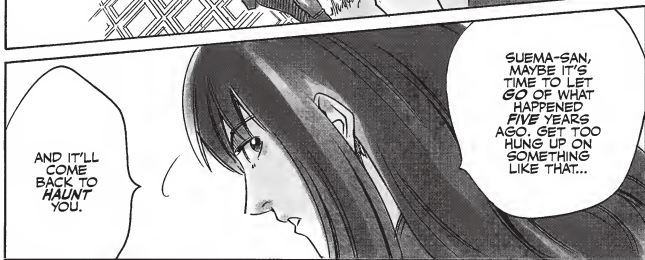
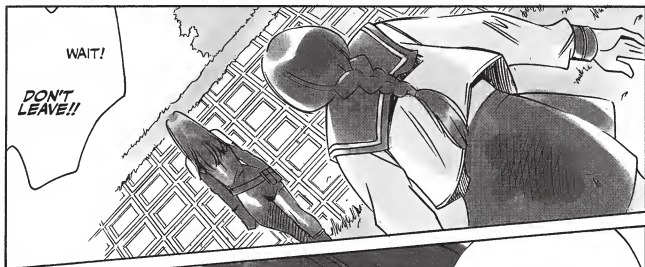
THAT'S
ONE
OF THE
MISSING
GIRLS!

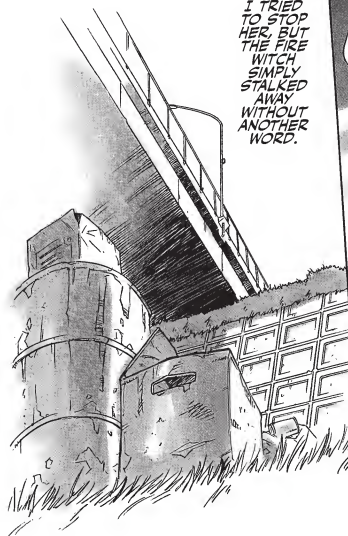
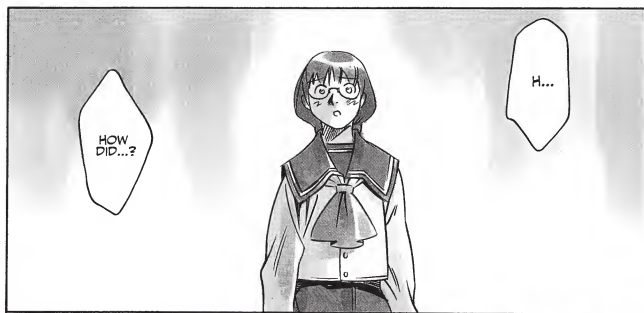
I KNOW
YOU
KILLED
KUSATSU
AKIKO!!

DON'T
YOU **LIE**
TO ME!

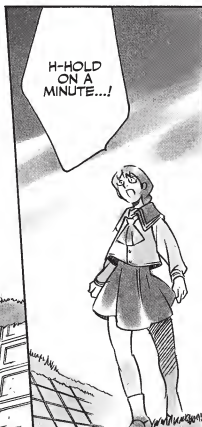








*I TRIED
TO STOP
HER, BUT
THE FIRE
WITCH
SIMPLY
STALKED
AWAY
WITHOUT
ANOTHER
WORD.*



*H-HOLD
ON A
MINUTE...!*



*HOW DID
SHE KNOW
ABOUT WHAT
HAPPENED
FIVE YEARS
AGO?!*

だい
第11話
Chapter Eleven



KUSATSU WAS ONE OF US.

WE...WE WERE AT THE SAME JUNIOR HIGH... AND ALL ON THE TABLE TENNIS TEAM TOGETHER.

SO IN, LIKE, SEPTEMBER, KUSATSU CALLED UP SAYING SHE HAD SOMETHIN' GOOD AND THAT SHE'D HOOK EVERYONE UP.

BUT IT WAS THIS **FREAKY** WEIRD KIND OF DRUG.

...LIKE YOU BECAME **TRANS-PARENT**...

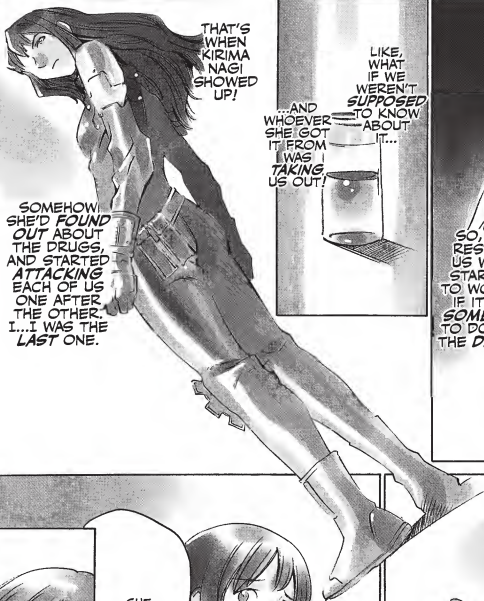
NO, NOT **UPPERS**. IT WAS SOMETHIN' **ELSE**.

...LIKE EVERY CORNER OF YOUR **BODY** WAS WASHED CLEAN.

YOU TOOK A **SNIFF**, AND IT WAS LIKE YOUR **MIND** OPENED UP...

IT WAS THIS SORT OF THIS **BLuish**, SEE-THROUGH **LIQUID**.





THAT'S
WHEN
KIRIMA
NAGI
SHOWED
UP!

SOMEHOW
SHE'D FOUND
OUT ABOUT
THE DRUGS,
AND STARTED
ATTACKING
EACH OF US
ONE AFTER
THE OTHER.
I...I WAS THE
LAST ONE.

...AND
WHOEVER
SHE GOT
IT FROM
I WAS
TAKING
US OUT!

LIKE,
WHAT
IF WE
WEREN'T
SUPPOSED
TO KNOW
ABOUT
IT...

AND
THEN
KUSATSU
VANISHED
TOO.

SO, THE
REST OF
US WERE
STARTING
TO WONDER
IF IT HAD
SOMETHIN'
TO DO WITH
THE DRUGS.



SHE
MUST'VE
PULLED
THAT BATH-
ROOM
STUNT...
JUST TO
TRACK US
DOWN!



ABOUT
TWO
WEEKS
AGO...

RIGHT
AFTER
SHE GOT
SUSPENDED.



WHEN
DID THIS
ALL
START?

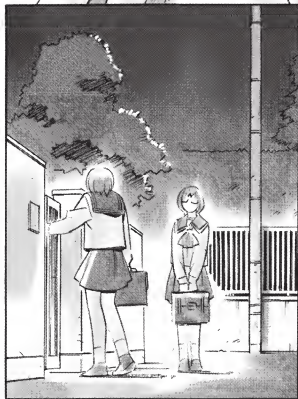


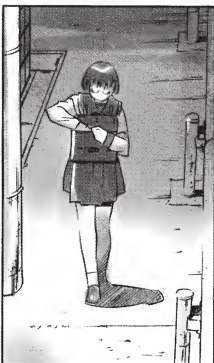
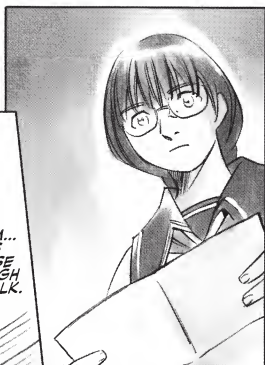
...BUT I
HAD TO.
I HAD
TO TELL
SOMEONE!



I
PROBABLY
SHOULDN'T
HAVE TOLD
YOU...

PLEASE,
DON'T
TELL
ANYONE,
SUEMA!
KEEP IT
SECRET!





KYOKO
WAS RUNNING
AWAY AS FAST
AS SHE COULD.
I HAD NOTHING
TO DO WITH IT!



HUFF
HUFF

BUT
WHY DID I
HAVE TO
MEET HER...
AND NOW?



I'M
CLEARLY
OUT
OF MY
MIND!

BUT
HERE I AM
RUNNING
STRAIGHT
TOWARDS
THE FIRE
WITCH'S
HOUSE!

SHE
JUST DID
WHATEVER
THE OTHER
COOL GIRLS
TOLD HER.

SHE
WASN'T
EVEN A
VICTIM.
JUST IN
THE
WRONG
PLACE
AT THE
WRONG
TIME.

I MEAN, IT
SOUNDED
LIKE SHE
HADN'T BEEN
ONE OF THE
RINGLEADERS.
SHE WAS JUST
A THIRD WHEEL.

KYOKO'S
FRAGMENTED
STORY
SUGGESTED
SHE HAD
ONLY SEEN
A SMALL
PART OF
WHAT WAS
REALLY
GOING ON.

AND
SHE
KNEW
ABOUT
MY
PAST.

BUT
HOW?

NAGI
HAD SAID
KUSATSU
AKIKO
HAD BEEN
KILLED...

HOW
DID
SHE
KNOW
THAT?



IF
THERE
WAS
DANGER...
I WANTED
TO SEE
IT!



MY
OWN
WILL
PLAYED
NO PART
IN THE
MATTER.



FIVE
YEARS
AGO
STUFF
HAD
HAPPENED
WITHOUT
ME EVER
KNOWING.

I ONLY
FOUND
OUT
ONCE
IT WAS
ALL
OVER.

WHO
CARES
IF HE
DOESN'T
EXIST?



THAT'S
WHY I HAD
CHASED
AFTER
BOOGIEPOP.



IF
KIRIMA
NAGI
REALLY
IS A
WITCH...

THEN
I'M
GONNA
END
OUT!



NO
MORE
BLISSFUL
IGNORANCE
FOR ME!

I JUST
WANTED
TO CONFRONT
SOMETHING.





NAGI'S
NOT HOME
YET, BUT
YOU CAN
JUST COME
IN AND
CHILL!

COME
ON IN!

Nagi has
friends?
Just a
moment!

UM, IS,
UH...IS
KIRIMA-SAN
IN?

THE
SKULLS
ON THE
FENCE!
KIRIMA-SAN
CAN'T LIVE
HERE!
IT'S TOO
NORMAL!!

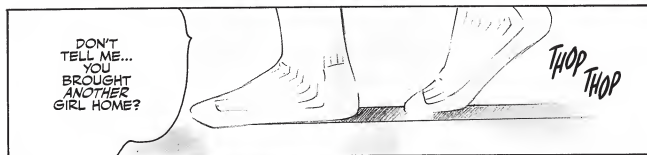
WAIT,
WHERE'S
THE
RUNDOWN
APART-
MENT?!

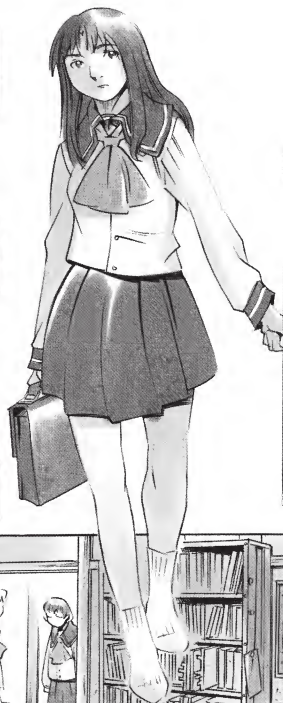
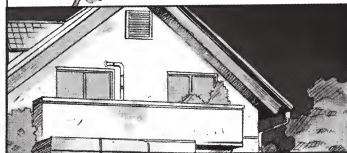
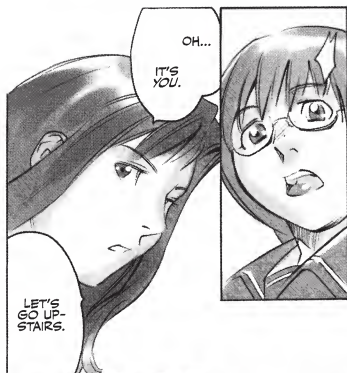


O-OH,
UM--

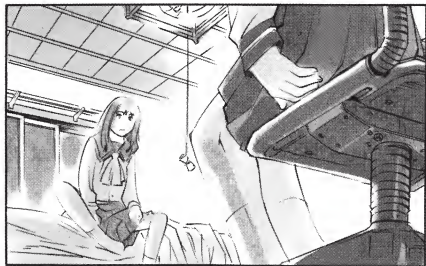
JUST
MAKE
YOURSELF
COMFORT-
ABLE.
SHE'LL BE
BACK SOON
ENOUGH.







Is this
really
a girl's
room?







I
THOUGHT
YOU'D
KNOW.

KIRIMA
SEIICHI.
YOU KNOW,
WROTE A
LOT OF
BOOKS?



WHY?
WHO'S
YOUR
DAD?



HMM...
WHY?

'CAUSE
I GOT A
FATHER
COMPLEX.



THE
KIRIMA SEIICHI?
WROTE THE
SCREAM INSIDE -
MULTIPLE
PERSONALITY
DISORDER, AND
VS IMAGINATOR
AND ALL THOSE
OTHERS?!

EHHHH?!



NOPE.

YOU'RE
KIDDING?!

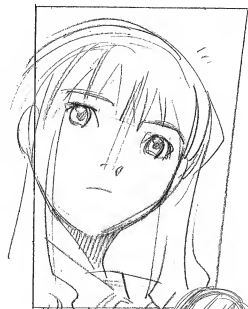
Boogiepop Doesn't Laugh

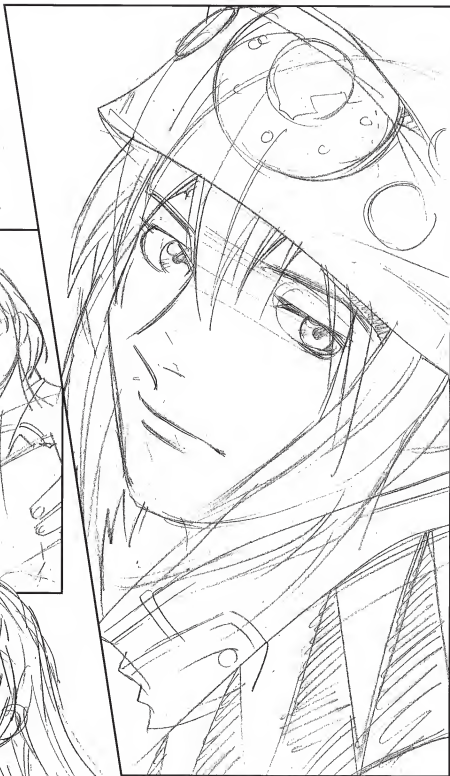
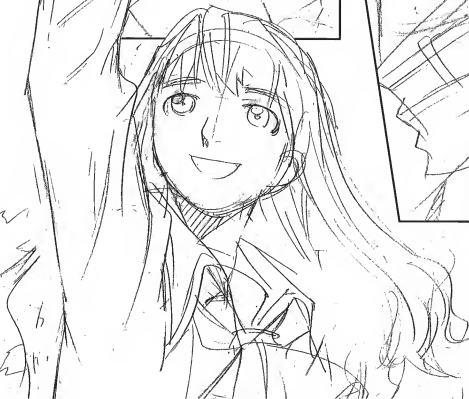
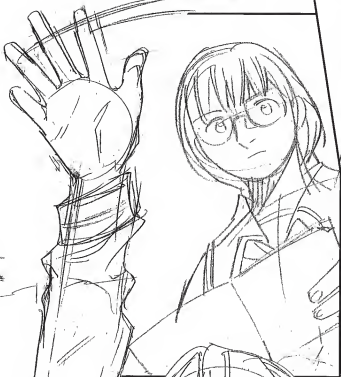
ブギーポップは

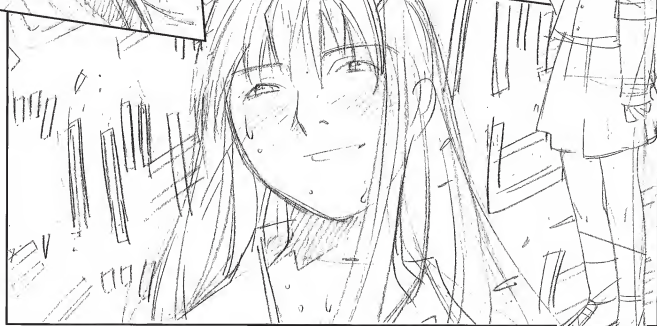
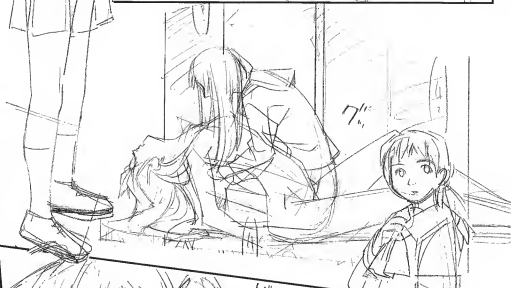
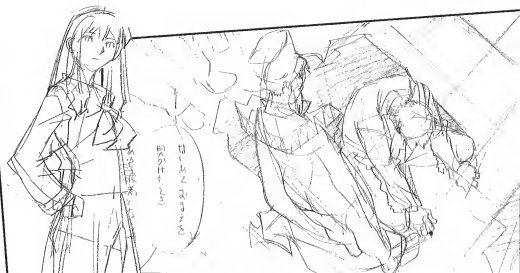
笑わない

メイキンググラフィック集
SKETCH BOOK

Vol.1







To be continued.

In Volume 2...

EVERYTHING GOES STRAIGHT TO HELL

The
extra-sized
conclusion of
*Boogiepop
Doesn't Laugh*
coming
July 2006.

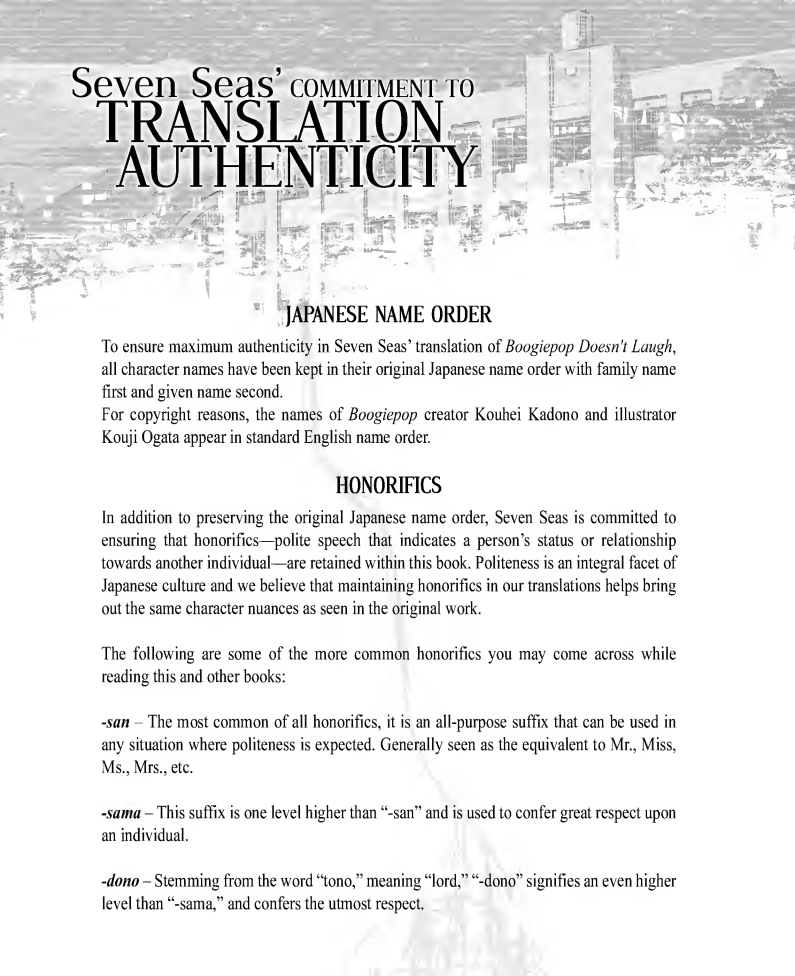
Don't
you dare
miss it!



Seven Seas

www.gomanga.com





Seven Seas' COMMITMENT TO TRANSLATION AUTHENTICITY

JAPANESE NAME ORDER

To ensure maximum authenticity in Seven Seas' translation of *Boogiepop Doesn't Laugh*, all character names have been kept in their original Japanese name order with family name first and given name second.

For copyright reasons, the names of *Boogiepop* creator Kouhei Kadono and illustrator Kouji Ogata appear in standard English name order.

HONORIFICS

In addition to preserving the original Japanese name order, Seven Seas is committed to ensuring that honorifics—polite speech that indicates a person's status or relationship towards another individual—are retained within this book. Politeness is an integral facet of Japanese culture and we believe that maintaining honorifics in our translations helps bring out the same character nuances as seen in the original work.

The following are some of the more common honorifics you may come across while reading this and other books:

-san – The most common of all honorifics, it is an all-purpose suffix that can be used in any situation where politeness is expected. Generally seen as the equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs., etc.

-sama – This suffix is one level higher than “-san” and is used to confer great respect upon an individual.

-dono – Stemming from the word “tono,” meaning “lord,” “-dono” signifies an even higher level than “-sama,” and confers the utmost respect.

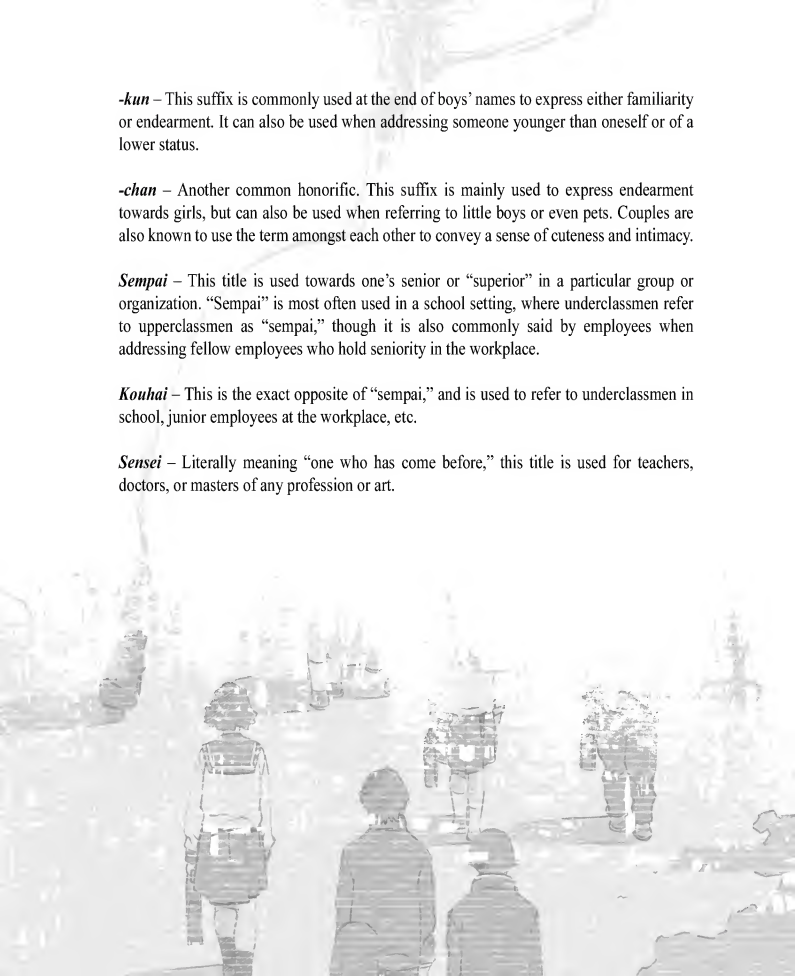
-kun – This suffix is commonly used at the end of boys' names to express either familiarity or endearment. It can also be used when addressing someone younger than oneself or of a lower status.

-chan – Another common honorific. This suffix is mainly used to express endearment towards girls, but can also be used when referring to little boys or even pets. Couples are also known to use the term amongst each other to convey a sense of cuteness and intimacy.

Sempai – This title is used towards one's senior or "superior" in a particular group or organization. "Sempai" is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to upperclassmen as "sempai," though it is also commonly said by employees when addressing fellow employees who hold seniority in the workplace.

Kouhai – This is the exact opposite of "sempai," and is used to refer to underclassmen in school, junior employees at the workplace, etc.

Sensei – Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.



About the Author

Born in 1968, Kouhei Kadono grew up uncertain about his direction in life. He spent a considerable portion of his early years frittering away his youth before somehow ending up writing novels.

In 1997, Kadono-sensei's first *Boogiepop* novel, *Boogiepop and Others*, took First Place in the Media Works' Dengeki Game Novel Contest. Early the following year, the novel was released to widespread acclaim and ignited the Japanese "light novel" (young adult) trend. Since that time, Kadono-sensei has written thirteen *Boogiepop* novels and several related works such as the *Beat's Discipline* short story collections and the two *Boogiepop* manga series entitled *Boogiepop Doesn't Laugh* and *Boogiepop Dual*. In its entirety, the *Boogiepop* series has seen over two million copies in print and spawned a live action movie and a hit anime series.

In addition to the *Boogiepop* universe, Kadono-sensei's body of literary work includes a wide array of fantasy and mystery novels such as the *Jiken*, *Soul Drop*, *Limited World* and *Night Watch* series.

About the Illustrator

Born in 1970, a native of Osaka, Kouji Ogata spent his early twenties struggling to get enough credits to graduate from Osaka Design School. In late 1996, Ogata-sensei was commissioned by Media Works to illustrate the first *Boogiepop* novel, *Boogiepop and Others*.

At the time, Ogata-sensei was simply a rising star with a distinctive, eye-catching art style, but he gradually was able to further hone his artistic skills with each subsequent work. His watercolor-style paneling seen in the two-volume *Boogiepop Doesn't Laugh* manga series was a particularly high point of his early career.

In addition to providing illustrations for novels and manga, Ogata-sensei has been involved with supplying character designs for anime productions including *Boogiepop Phantom*, *Spirit* and *Gin-iro no kami no Agito*.

In his free time he enjoys motorcycles, tennis, and remote controlled models.

Novel Soundtrack

The *Music Inspired by Boogiepop and Others* soundtrack was composed by Yuki Kajitani (who created the music for *.hack//SIGN* and *Tsubasa Chronicle*) and comprises of eleven tracks which serve as image songs for the novel. This soundtrack serves to enhance the reader's experience and is a common occurrence in Japan.

Containing a variety of styles, from piano melodies to techno and reworked classical music, the CD is an excellent addition to the *Boogiepop* universe that serves to further set the mood of the series. However, one of the most important aspects of this CD's release in the US was not the music but the fact that the liner notes contained Ogata's illustrations from *Boogiepop and Others* along with one-line quotations from the novel.

The Imaginator

Later in 1998, the second novel was published, complete with a bizarre title that would become a staple of the series. Titled *Boogiepop Returns VS Imaginator*,

the novel was published in two parts: *Sign* (published by Seven Seas under the title *Boogiepop Returns*) and *Parade* (*Boogiepop VS Imaginator*) and illustrated once again by Ogata.

Boogiepop Returns sees the introduction of the mysterious Towa Organization, which appears in the rest of the series as well as *Boogiepop Phantom*. Shrouded in mystery, this organization is the stuff of conspiracy theorists' nightmares. Its mission: to hunt down psychics and anyone who shows signs of being further along the evolutionary path. It is also thought to have had something to do with Manticore and Echoes as well as the latest villain, who is known simply by the codename Spooky E.

The story also centers on the school teacher Asukai Jin, who can see a person's flaws in the shape of a plant on their chest, and becomes a pawn of the Imaginator, who wants to recreate the world in his image. In addition to this, *Boogiepop Returns* is also a tale of the doomed love affair between Aya, a low-level Towa minion, and Masaki, the step-brother of Kirima Nagi, from *Boogiepop and Others*.

BOOGIEPOP

The Ultimate Guide PART 1

by Lesley Smith

Boogiepop and Others

In 1997, a Japanese "light (young adult) novel" about a phantasmal crime fighter-cum-shinigami entitled *Boogiepop and Others* won the MediaWorks' Degenki Game Novel Contest and has, since then, gained a vast fan base across the globe, inspiring twelve more novels, two manga series, various short stories, an anime series and a live-action movie.

Told in a non-linear fashion through the eyes of five students at Shinyo Academy, Kouhei Kadono's *Boogiepop and Others* focuses on the object of an urban legend whispered among the female students, of a *shinigami* (spirit of death) known as Boogiepop.

The legend says Boogiepop is responsible for the rash of disappearances from amongst the Academy's student body, but that's not the whole truth. Another more malevolent being is also active in the school, the Manticore, a deadly shape shifter with a taste for humans currently adopting the form of Shinyo Academy student Yuhara Minako.

Also roaming the city is Echoes, a dishevelled man in rags who is—like his mythological namesake—curled to mimic only the words he hears spoken by others. It is by crossing paths with this mysterious figure, also seeking to destroy Manticore, that *Boogiepop and Others*' first narrator, Takeda Keiji, encounters the *shinigami* of Shinyo Academy lore.

Dressed in a dark cloak and a matching hat, Boogiepop is real and none other than Keiji's girlfriend, Miyashita Touka. Except Touka is not just dressing up; she is 'currently' Boogiepop, a male personality separate from Touka's own that rises up when 'he' detects trouble. Five years prior, Boogiepop appeared to deal with a serial killer and has now returned to put a stop to Manticore and its lover/minion Satome Masami.

Like many Japanese books, *Boogiepop and Others* also came with some illustrated pages, drawn by Kouji Ogata. These included colored character shots for the main narrators and antagonists in the novel as well as a memorable quote for each. The novel also contained several single and double-page black and white spreads illustrating specific scenes from the book. Ogata's character designs also inspired a series of fully-animated commercials produced by MediaWorks to promote *Boogiepop and Others* (the subbed thirty second version of which can be found on Gomanga.com) as well as other books in the series.

Boogiepop: a haunting series that has spawned legions of fans across the planet. For those of you who've never seen the anime or the movie, welcome to the first installment of the ultimate guide covering all things *Boogiepop*!



BOOGIEPOP

The Ultimate Guide PART I

Live Action Movie

Y2K also heralded a new addition to the *Boogiepop* franchise: a live action movie directed by Kaneda Ryu entitled *Boogiepop and Others*. Based on the original novel and the *Boogiepop Doesn't Laugh* manga, the movie was given an American release by The Right Stuff International (who also released *Boogiepop Phantom* and the accompanying soundtrack).

Following the same method of non-linear storytelling featured in the novel, the movie opens with the Manticore devouring Yurihara Minako in a scene reminiscent of an erotic movie. Comprised of vignette-like scenes, it then jumps from the various perspectives of students including tomboy Kirima Nagi, introverted would-be murder victim Suema Kazuko, polygamous Kamikishiro Naoko, and nice-guy Takeda Keiji.



©2000 Kouhei Kadono/Media Works/Hakuhodo/Toei Video



The film also takes pains to explain Manticore and Echoes' back-story, which was left intentionally vague in the novel. Through a telepathic link with Kamikishiro Naoko, Echoes explains that the Manticore is a failed experiment created when scientists attempted to clone him. After killing the scientists, Manticore went on the run, blending into human society by stealing the forms of others.

Various new scenes are also added or expanded upon, such as Nagi—one of the strongest characters in the film—throwing a chair through a first story window. *Boogiepop and Others* also concentrates on exploring the drug that is produced from the Manticore's tears. The drug has not only become a popular stimulant amongst the students of Shinyo Academy, but its Rohypnol-like qualities also allow Saotome to lure girls for the man-eater to consume.

Finally, Boogiepop's role in the film is rather incidental and tinged with *deus ex machina*, with the Shinyo students doing all the work and Boogiepop striking the final blow. Regardless, the movie is entertaining and a great place for fans to start their obsession with Shinyo Academy's resident *shinigami*.

Boogiepop Doesn't Laugh

The success of the novel and movie led to not one but two manga series: *Boogiepop Doesn't Laugh* and *Boogiepop Dual*. *Boogiepop Doesn't Laugh* (also known as *Boogiepop wa Warawanai*) originally ran in the

monthly magazine *Dengeki Animation* (produced by MediaWorks) between October 1999 and May 2001 before being published as a two volume manga series later that year.

Written by Kadono and illustrated by Ogata, *Boogiepop Doesn't Laugh* essentially retold the events of the first novel in manga form. However, it also included scenes that were not featured in either the novel or the movie, such as an evening of group dating which ends as a sexual encounter between Kamikishiro Naoko and Kimura Akio in one of Japan's numerous love hotels. The look of the manga is also quite unique with soft tones being used for the first fourth of the series and a quite water-colored look for the rest, rather than the dark, gothic tones commonly seen in many supernatural series. This all serves to significantly enhance the creepiness factor even further.

Of course, this is only the beginning of the *Boogiepop* franchise. Join us in *Boogiepop Doesn't Laugh* Vol. 2 for part 2 of "Boogiepop: The Ultimate Guide" where we will examine *Boogiepop Phantom*...



Boogiepop
doesn't laugh

Boogiepop

doesn't laugh

VOLUME 1 of 2

story by Kouhei Kadono art by Kouji Ogata

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BOOGIEPOP DOESN'T LAUGH Vol. 1
BOOGIEPOP WA WARAWANAI Vol. 1

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THE END

YOU'RE READING THE WRONG WAY

This is the last page of
***Boogiepop Doesn't Laugh* Volume 1.**



This book reads from right to left, Japanese style. To read from the beginning, flip the book over to the other side, start with the top right panel, and take it from there.

If this is your first time reading manga, just follow the diagram. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get used to it! Have fun!

Who am I? My name is Boogiepop...

There is an urban legend that tells of a *shinigami* that can release people from the pain they are suffering. This "Angel of Death" has a name--Boogiepop. And the legends are true. Boogiepop is real.

When a rash of disappearances involving female students breaks out at Shinyo Academy, the police and faculty assume they just have a bunch of runaways on their hands. Yet some students know better. Something mysterious and foul is afoot. Is it Boogiepop or something even more sinister...?

Uncover the mysteries of Shinyo Academy and piece together the true order of disturbing events in the first volume of this unforgettable prelude to the hit anime series *Boogiepop Phantom*!

FEATURING ALL-NEW
SCENES NOT FOUND
IN THE BOOGIEPOP
AND OTHERS NOVEL!



"This world is full of flaws."

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